

The royal wedding in The Times

Royal wedding week will be commemorated with many special features including the first free colour magazine in the new-paper's history.

Today: How the day will be celebrated outside London; guide to what will be open, page 2.

Tomorrow: The 64-page colour magazine which includes articles by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lady Antonia Fraser, Norman St John-Stevas and Charles Douglas-Home. On the features pages, Prince Charles's last week of bachelorhood by Alan Hamilton, and a special guide to monarchies (deferred from Monday).

Wednesday: A two-page guide to the wedding day for television viewers and spectators, with Philip Howard giving a comprehensive timetable for the host of participants.

Thursday: A unique special souvenir edition, including a view of the future role for the Prince of Wales by his biographer, Anthony Holden.

Political tone to French murders

The secretary of a Gaullist strong-man organization was charged in connection with the murder near Marseilles of a police inspector, who was until recently local head of the organization. Investigators are searching for traces of five other victims, as the murders take on a distinctly political tone. Page 4

Loophole in ban on whaling

The ban on the hunting of sperm whales next year, arrived at during the International Whaling Commission meeting, seems to have a loophole. A scientific conference next March will review the evidence and a different decision could emerge, even if the conservationist countries still vote for a ban. Page 3

The Times

We apologize to readers of 'The Times' in certain areas for typographical errors and the appearance of some art reviews which were in Saturday's issue. This is because of an electrical breakdown in the photocomposition department.

European body to study tapping

The legality of telephone tapping by police in Britain is to be examined by the European Commission of Human Rights. Mr James Malone, a Surrey antiquities dealer, has alleged that tapping of his telephone breached the European Convention on Human Rights. Page 3

Reagan appeal on tax cuts

President Reagan goes on television tonight to seek public support for his proposals to cut taxes. He is using every available tool to fight off a challenge from Democratic congressmen on the issue, which is complicated by his wish to have the measures in law before Congress goes into recess early next month. Page 6

Walesa on strike weapon

Solidarity, Poland's independent trade union organization, must have the strike weapon available, Mr Lech Walesa, told The Times in an interview. He was responding to criticism of strikes at the recent Communist Party congress, and said Solidarity and the Government must work together to solve Poland's economic crisis. Page 6

Shipbuilders hold losses

Mr Robert Atkinson, British Shipbuilders' chairman, will announce this week that the state-owned group has stayed within its original loss limit of £60m. The annual accounts are better than expected because of cost-cutting and fewer orders to claim government subsidies. Page 17

No hint of break in Maze crisis

There still appears to be no hint of a break in the Ulster hunger strike crisis. Two men taking part in the fast are on the brink of death after more than sixty days without food, but both the IRA and the Government seem to be entrenched in their positions. Page 2

MG Metro plan

BL may sell a high performance version of the Mini Metro branded a MG badge in the United States. When the Metro was launched last October its prospects in America were dimmed, but the falling pound has made the company think again. Page 3

Springboks' tour in balance after clashes

By Our Foreign Staff

The fate of the South African Springboks rugby tour of New Zealand was in the balance last night after Mr Duncan MacIntyre, the acting Prime Minister, said the Attorney-General had been asked to advise on the legality of withdrawing visas from the South African players.

This followed the cancellation in Hamilton of the second match of the tour on Saturday following demonstrations and the threat by the pilot of a stolen small aircraft to crash it into the stadium.

Mr MacIntyre told a press conference after the Cabinet held a meeting to discuss the tour that the Army would not be called in to help police deal with demonstrators protesting against the visit.

In Washington, Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, said that Government leaders would not seek to withdraw consideration of the tour, although he emphasized that the meeting would not necessarily decide whether the tour should be called off.

Mr Robert Walton, the Commissioner of Police, will report to the Cabinet today on whether he believes his forces are capable of controlling future demonstrations. He said after Saturday's confrontation that he doubted whether he could now control the situation.

Mr MacIntyre and other Cabinet ministers heard a report from Mr Walton yesterday afternoon and Mr Walton's comment that the entire police force could not have stopped the Hamilton troubles.

"I have discussed this with Mr Walton and the situation which occurred, and I have asked him to reconsider his statement and see what he would need to do to stop such a situation," he said.

It should be a matter for the Rugby Union to call off the tour if that were the advice of the police. If in that event it failed to do so the responsibility would rest with the Government.

Mr MacIntyre said police had been authorized to seek further logistical support from the Ministry of Defence but he ruled out the use of the Army against demonstrators.

He believed the anti-apartheid group, Harts, had lost control of the protesters. "Other forces", whom he declined to identify, were helping organize the demonstrations, he said, and protesters were prepared for pitched battle.

Mr Ce Blazey, the chairman of the Rugby Union, had talks with Mr Walton and other senior police officials in Wellington yesterday. His council is expected to meet today.

The police performance at Hamilton has been both praised and criticized. Dr Robert Moodie, Secretary of the Police Association, said considerable anger and frustration existed among policemen at Hamilton because they felt they had not been tested as to whether they could handle the tour.

Mr Gideon Tait, a former Assistant Commissioner of Police, and Mrs Elizabeth Sunderland, head of a pro-tour organization, Spurs, issued separate calls for Mr Walton's resignation. The next match is scheduled for New Plymouth on Wednesday.

An unopposed coordinator, Mr John Minto, his face severely bruised from two separate beatings he had received, one on the rugby ground and one in a private house, from tour supporters, said that the protest had gone precisely as Hart had planned it.

Mr Michael Law, Deputy Chairman of Hart, said that the level of protest would continue to increase game by game.

The Springboks remained at their Hamilton hotel while the future of the tour was discussed. At New Plymouth, tour supporters clashed with demonstrators who were pelted with eggs.

Inside the Springboks' hotel it was reported to be surprisingly calm. A spokesman said the players appeared unperturbed by the incident.

□ Johannesburg: Few people in South Africa would be surprised if the Springboks return home this week.

The abandonment in Hamilton of the second match of the scheduled 16 fixtures has shaken the country's whites. Although demonstrations against the Springboks were anticipated it was felt that New Zealand's passion for rugby football would win the day.

The cancellation of a tour by British soccer players last month after Fifa, the world governing body, said they would be barred from playing for life if they took part in matches in South Africa, caused disappointment and a certain amount of resentment.

But soccer is largely a sport played and watched by blacks and those who have written to newspapers have mostly been critical of the local soccer hierarchy for trying to hoodwink Fifa.

Black letter-writers have said they want equality in all aspects of life in South Africa, not just in sport.

Rugby football, and to a lesser extent cricket, are white games. Last week the International Cricket Conference (ICC) in London refused to readmit South Africa to the test match arena.

English-language newspapers in South Africa this weekend largely blamed the Government's tardiness in relaxing sports apartheid laws for the New Zealand fiasco.

The Sunday Tribune said it would be futile for the tour to continue and the Springboks should return home.

The Sunday Express accused the Government of introducing reforms not out of conviction but in response to pressure.

Wedding ode of joy from Poet Laureate

Sir John Betjeman, the Poet Laureate, has produced a poem to celebrate the marriage of the Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer. But because of a recent stroke Sir John, aged 75, will not be able to attend the service.

A friend said: "He is not very well. The poem is his personal gift."

The last time Sir John produced a work for a royal occasion was at the Queen's silver jubilee in 1977, when his hymn came in for some fierce criticism with one MP describing it as "banal and pathetic".

The poem is as follows: "Let's all in love and friendship hither come Whilst the shrill Treble calls to thundering Tom, And since bells are for merriment Let's rise and ring and fall to admiration."

Those lines are taken from a ringer's rhyme Composed in Cornwall in the Georgian time

From the high parish church of St Endellion, Loyal to the Monarch in the late Rebellion, Loyal to King Charles the First and Charles the Second, And through the Georges to our Prince of Wales.

A human, friendly line that never fails, I'm glad that you are marrying Below Sir Christopher's embracing dome; Four square on that his golden cross and ball Complete our own Cathedral of St Paul.

Blackbirds in City churchyards hail the dawn, Charles and Diana, on your wedding morn. Come college youths, release your twelve-voiced power Concealed within the graceful belfry tower Till loud as breakers plunging up the shore The land is drowned in one melodious roar.

A dozen years ago I wrote these lines: "You knelt a boy, you rose a man And thus your lonelier life began."

The scene is changed, the outlook cleared, The loneliness has disappeared, And all of those assembled Are joyful in the love you share.

Meter men try 'remote' reading

By Edward Townsend

British Gas has joined with electricity and water authorities to test the practicality of remote electronic reading of credit meters.

The experiment, which is backed by the Department of Industry, involves installation of a "black box" to monitor all the meters in a house and convey the information along the nearest telephone line to the nearest transformer. The signal then are relayed to the individual authority.

The project will equip 400 homes in Milton Keynes and North West London with the devices beginning next year. The telephone is the only domestic appliance whose use is monitored externally.

A British Gas spokesman said to refit the country's 13 million gas and 20 million electricity meters with a monitoring system would be a "vast job".

"We will need to make many more experiments before considering it on a national scale. If it works, it will mean the life for us a lot easier and cheaper but at the moment the meter reader looks like being a familiar sight for many years."

A remote meter reading is one of several ideas that British gas is pursuing to reduce overheads and speed payment of bills. Another is a new system of credit vetting for hire purchases, customers being given a "green" clearance to those who satisfy minimum criteria.

Customers buying anything from a gas fire to a central heating system on hire purchase have been subject to complex credit checking. Now, British Gas says it will provide the goods on credit to anyone who produces a banker's cheque guarantee card and is prepared to pay by standing order.

Action over leak rejected by the DPP

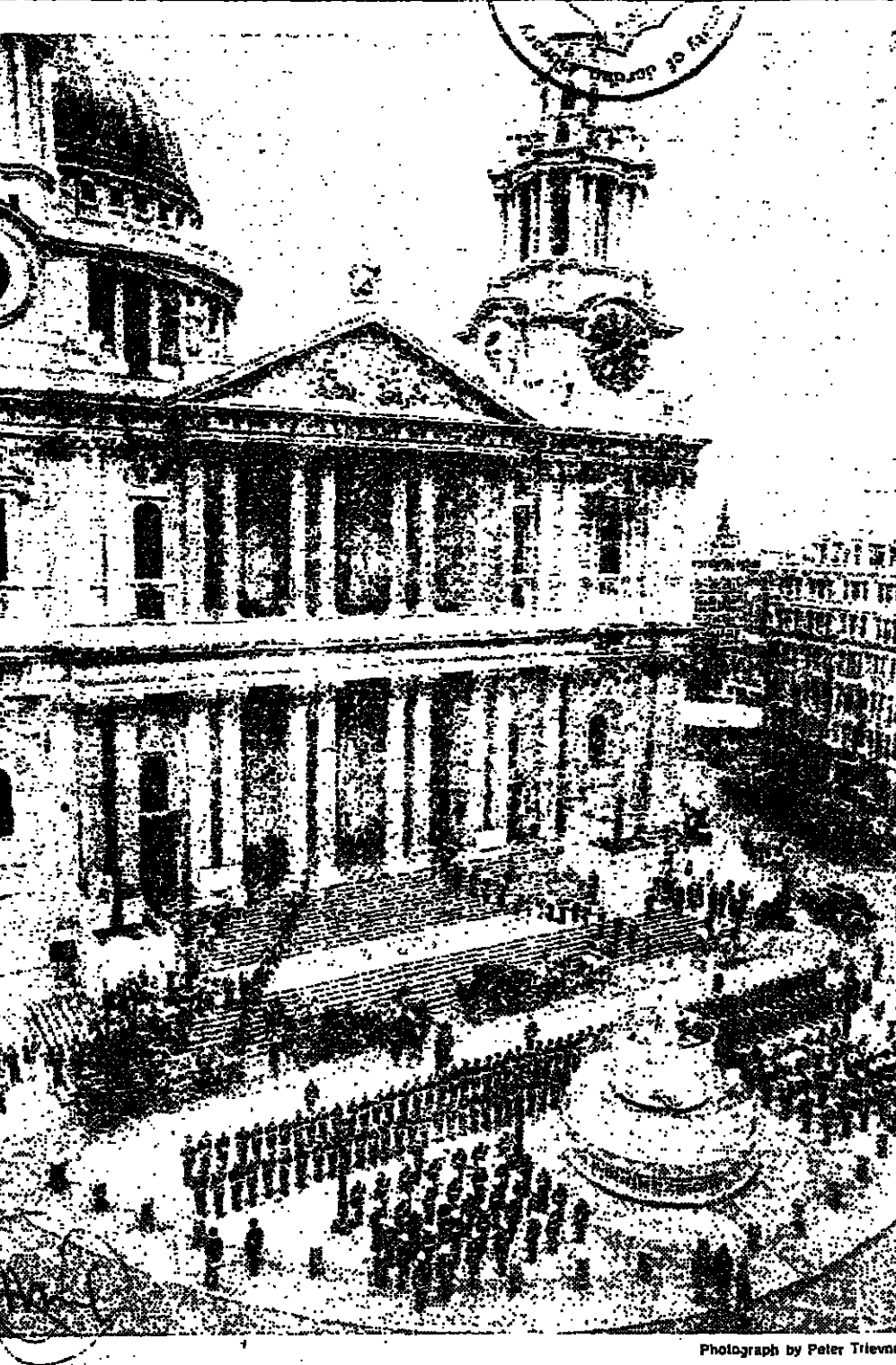
By Henry Stanhope

Defence Correspondent

Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecutions, had decided to take no action about the disclosure of Ministry or Defence documents to the Press Association last year. But the ministry is still considering internal disciplinary measures.

The documents concerned the Treasury's demand that the 1981-82 defence budget should be pruned by about £400m, later reduced to £200m after some fierce fighting by Mr Francis Pym, then Secretary of State for Defence.

The DPP's decision was made after senior civil servants had been interviewed by police.



All but the real thing: The carriages were empty for the rehearsals outside St Paul's Cathedral yesterday.

A nervous Lady Diana faces the crowds again to see Prince win

From Alan Hamilton, Windsor

Lady Diana Spencer married yesterday, at her second attempt of the weekend, to watch the Prince of Wales play in a polo match and win. There were signs that she did not greatly enjoy the experience.

On Saturday she had fled from the ground as Prince Charles was about to start a game at a country polo ground in Hampshire. Yesterday, her nerve somewhat recovered, she steered herself to face a 20,000 crowd at the Guards Polo Club, Windsor, and saw an English side beat Spain by 10 goals to six in the Silver Jubilee Cup.

The Prince contributed one point to the English score. As Lady Diana walked on the royal enclosure, she looked nervous and unsmiling. At half-time, when spectators tread in the divots, she remained almost hidden at the rear of the royal box.

Prince Charles, in an interview with Independent Television News before yesterday's match, said Lady Diana had come under a lot of pressure from photographers.

Of Saturday's incident, he said: "It is not much fun watching polo when you are being surrounded by people with very long lenses poking at you from all directions the entire time and then taking a photograph which is quite easy to do saying 'looking bored'."

"I think all this added up to a certain amount of strain each time and it told eventually, hardly surprisingly, so I only hope after we get married it will be a bit easier for her to come to a polo match without this intensity of interest."

A "The Prince added that it was 'absolute rubbish' that Lady Diana did not like watching polo, as some people had suggested."

Yesterday Lady Diana was happy to leave the limelight to a star-studded galaxy of her wedding guests in the front seats, including the Queen, the

Duke of Edinburgh, Princess Anne, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, Mrs Nancy Reagan, ex-King Constantine of Greece, and Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan.

Before the Prince's match he and Lady Diana watched the Coronation Cup match between South America and the England first team. The visitors won 7-6.

On Saturday while the prince went to prepare himself and his ponies for the match, at Tidworth Garrison, Hampshire, between a Royal Navy team and the Army, Lady Diana took her front-row seat on the small raised open grandstand to watch the final chukka of the match between the local team and a visiting American side.

She was wearing a thin dress, and although she smiled constantly, she talked little to companions and appeared cold.

At the end of the match an area 30ft square was roped-off. Continued on page 2, col 5

Haddad threat endangers the fragile ceasefire

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, July 26

Major Saad Haddad, the commander of the Israeli-backed Christian militias in Lebanon, today threatened immediate retaliation if there were any more breaches in the 48-hour-old Middle East ceasefire.

The threat, which was made during an interview with Israeli radio, points out one of the most vulnerable aspects of the ceasefire agreement. The continuing Israeli reconnaissance flights over Lebanon and the refusal by one Lebanese-based Palestinian group to halt its cross-border attacks, also threaten to end the uneasy truce.

Since the ceasefire came into force at midday on Friday, Palestinian rockets have fired three separate salvos of Katyusha rockets into the narrow buffer zone controlled by Major Haddad, wounding three civilians.

Responsibility for the attacks has been claimed by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, one of the most extreme guerrilla groups, which today repeated its refusal to go along with the ceasefire terms, negotiated by the United Nations and Mr Philip Habib, America's Middle East envoy.

The front's stand has angered United Nations officials, who pointed out that a pledge of a cessation of violence had been received from Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, after he had consulted all the groups involved.

Responding to the rocket attacks, Major Haddad claimed that he would not permit any more breaches in the agreement, which both he and the Israeli Government insist applies equally to the 60-mile long buffer zone of Israel's northern border.

"I have taken the decision that if they shoot again, I am going to retaliate and retaliate hard", Major Haddad said.

Asked if he would return fire against the Palestinians even if

the Israelis objected, he said: "Yes. This is our life. We can not always give our necks for them (the Israelis)."

Any opening of fire from "Free Lebanon"—as the buffer zone is known—would pose a serious test for the ceasefire as it is widely believed that Israeli troops operate freely from the area.

Palestinian anti-aircraft guns opened fire on Israeli jets flying a reconnaissance mission over Lebanon today but scored no hits.

Israel insists that the long-standing practice of overflying Lebanese territory would continue despite the truce. Mr Arafat said the overflights were in direct breach of the ceasefire terms.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Labour leader, said today that the Government had made several serious mistakes in its treatment of the Lebanese crisis, beginning with the recent bombing attack on Beirut (Reuter reports).

On a tour of the Lebanese border region, he said: "I think we should have agreed to a ceasefire sooner than we did. A lot of the disagreements were just semantics. We should have brought a ceasefire as soon as possible."

He made several serious mistakes. The first was in Beirut itself. It was not clear why we undertook the massive bombardment. I'm not speaking only about the moral aspects although this is also important. But it was not clear where it was meant to lead, what it was meant to achieve by it. And the reaction was possible to anticipate."

This was the first open attack by Mr Peres on Mr Menachem Begin's handling of the crisis. Previously he said he would not criticize the Government while Israeli settlements were under attack.

Hard going for Begin, page 5

Think tank had warned of tension in Toxteth

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

The Prime Minister was given a special study on the problems of Toxteth, shortly before the Toxteth riots. It was prepared by the Central Policy Review Staff, the Cabinet's "think tank", and examined the cycle of deprivation in the area, and existing Government efforts to tackle it.

The report gave warning of the danger of increasing social tension in locations experiencing high unemployment and poverty, and the probability of threats to law and order stemming from them. But Whitehall sources are adamant that it did not amount to a dramatic "blood in the streets" prophecy.

It has been pointed out privately to The Times that such observations about the possibility of heightened social tension have been made in the past. The report was a feature of submissions to ministers on the subject of inner cities by those ministries concerned.

The main thrust of the CPRS report was an examination of why the history of investment and assistance schemes already applied to Merseyside has achieved disappointing results. It also considered the likely success of the new enterprise zone at Seacombe and urban development corporation based on the Mersey docks.

After Greater Glasgow, Merseyside is regarded in Whitehall as the worst example of widespread urban deprivation in Britain. The CPRS team which drafted the report drew lessons from it for general application.

The think tank study is an important element in the briefing material taken to Merseyside by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment. Mr Quentin Thompson, one of the joint authors of the CPRS submission, who is on secondment to the Cabinet Office from the Greater London Council, has accompanied Mr Heseltine on his fact-finding mission. He collaborated on the original study with Miss Eileen Mackay, a principal on loan to the think tank from the Treasury.

From a base on the waterfront in the offices of the Merseyside urban development corporation, Mr Thompson is now taking part in the intensive round of discussions associated with Mr Heseltine's inquiry, and is meeting, once again, the many individuals and groups he and Miss Mackay consulted earlier this year.

Members of the think tank have been involved since last summer in an inter-departmental exercise in Whitehall that has monitored the continuing urban programme of grants totalling £224m a year to several local authorities engaged in partnership schemes stemming from the Inner Urban Areas Act 1978.

But the specific CPRS report on Merseyside has had a very limited circulation inside Whitehall. There does not appear, for example, to be any detailed knowledge of it in the Department of Education and Science or the Department of Health and Social Security, to name two ministries with a clear interest in inner cities.

Given the sensitivity of the subject in the light of recent civil disorder, The Times

Continued on back page, col 2

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Ban on catching sperm whales leaves loophole

By Nicholas Timmins

Conservationists emerged from last week's meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Brighton with one important psychological victory and one real advance.

The psychological victory was the passing of a zero quota, in effect a ban on the hunting of sperm whales next year. This season's 1,320 will be taken.

The real advance was a ban from November on the use of the cold harpoon, a particularly slow and cruel way of killing whales. The harpoon, which is used only to take the small minke whales, will be replaced by a new explosive device, which should ensure a more humane end.

The question is whether the sperm whale ban will prove effective.

Of the countries that hunt sperm whales, Chile, Peru and Iceland had agreed before this year's meeting to stop their catch. The zero quotas therefore merely confirmed their position.

The remaining 850 sperm whales are taken by Japan. But before the quota comes into force the commission is to hold a scientific meeting and then a full session in March next year to examine the scientific evidence for the ban.

The 850 sperm whales are taken by coastal whalers from a stock of 210,000 whales in the North Pacific.

Japan claims that the stock can easily withstand the catch, and the scientific model on which the conservationists argue that the stock should be protected produces a sufficiently borderline result for any new data that emerges between now and next March to lead possibly to the scientific meeting's agreeing that the stock could still be exploited.

The question then would be whether the conservationist

countries would vote for a ban anyway.

Despite warnings from the Japanese commissioner last week that Japan would exercise its right to object and carry on the hunt if a total ban was passed, it is likely that Japan will agree to the zero quota if it is not for the scientific evidence shows.

If the evidence goes the other way, but the conservation countries still vote to stop the hunt, Japan's reaction is impossible to predict.

There are signs of internal tension in Japan over whaling. The Foreign Ministry is said to believe that the damage whaling is doing to the country's reputation is no longer worth while when it is such a trivial part of the economy.

On the other hand, the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party relies in part on the votes of the rural, whaling, and fishing communities for a disproportionate number of seats. The issue has greater political importance within Japan than the whaling industry's annual turnover of £34m would otherwise imply.

The threat of fishery sanctions by the United States if Japan does register a formal objection might, however, be enough to make the issue not worth pursuing.

Japan's small advance at this year's meeting by managing to increase the Antarctic catch quota of the minke whales. With their numbers rising, 8,102 has been set as the limit for the coming year, almost 1,000 more than will be taken this season. The result is that the total number of whales that can be taken next year is roughly the same as last year.

Time running out, page 10

Battle for Croydon

How young Pitt was turned by Grimond

By Ian Bradley

Mr William Pitt, the man with the famous political name who seems certain to bear the Liberal Party standard in the Croydon North-West by-election, is a former Young Conservative chairman who now finds himself well to the left of his own party.

His political development owes much to his wife, Janet, who comes of traditional radical Nonconformist stock. It was her strong views on racial discrimination and apartheid which led him to leave the Conservatives in 1959. He switched his support to the Liberals, but did not join the party until 1970.

Race relations have continued to be a strong interest of Mr Pitt's ever since. He is one of the vice-chairmen of the Joint Committee Against Racism, the only all-party group on the subject in Britain.

Like many of his generation (he is now 44), he was also drawn to the Liberal Party by the speeches and writings of Jo Grimond. The themes articulated by Grimond in the late 1950s and early 1960s, realignment of the left, reform of the electoral system and co-partnership and profit sharing in industry, are among Mr Pitt's strongest political commitments.

A convinced pacifist and former member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, who says that he supports all Liberal Party policy except in the field of defence, he is generally regarded as standing on the left of the party. During the late 1970s he edited *Radical Bulletin*, an influential newsletter which often took a highly critical line on the Liberal establishment.

In the leadership contest which followed Jeremy Thorpe's resignation, he supported the radical John Pardo rather than the more conservative David Steel.

He was a leading opponent of the Lib-Lab pact of 1977-78. He says that he opposed it for the same reason that he now supports an alliance with the SDP. "We were in a compact with a discredited party with an outdated philosophy. Now we are in alliance with people who believe like us that what

is needed is a radical change in British politics."

A keen trade unionist and chairman of the Lambeth branch of the National and Local Government Officers Association, Mr Pitt sees the overriding issue in British politics as being the need to break down the class system which he sees as permeating the whole of our society.

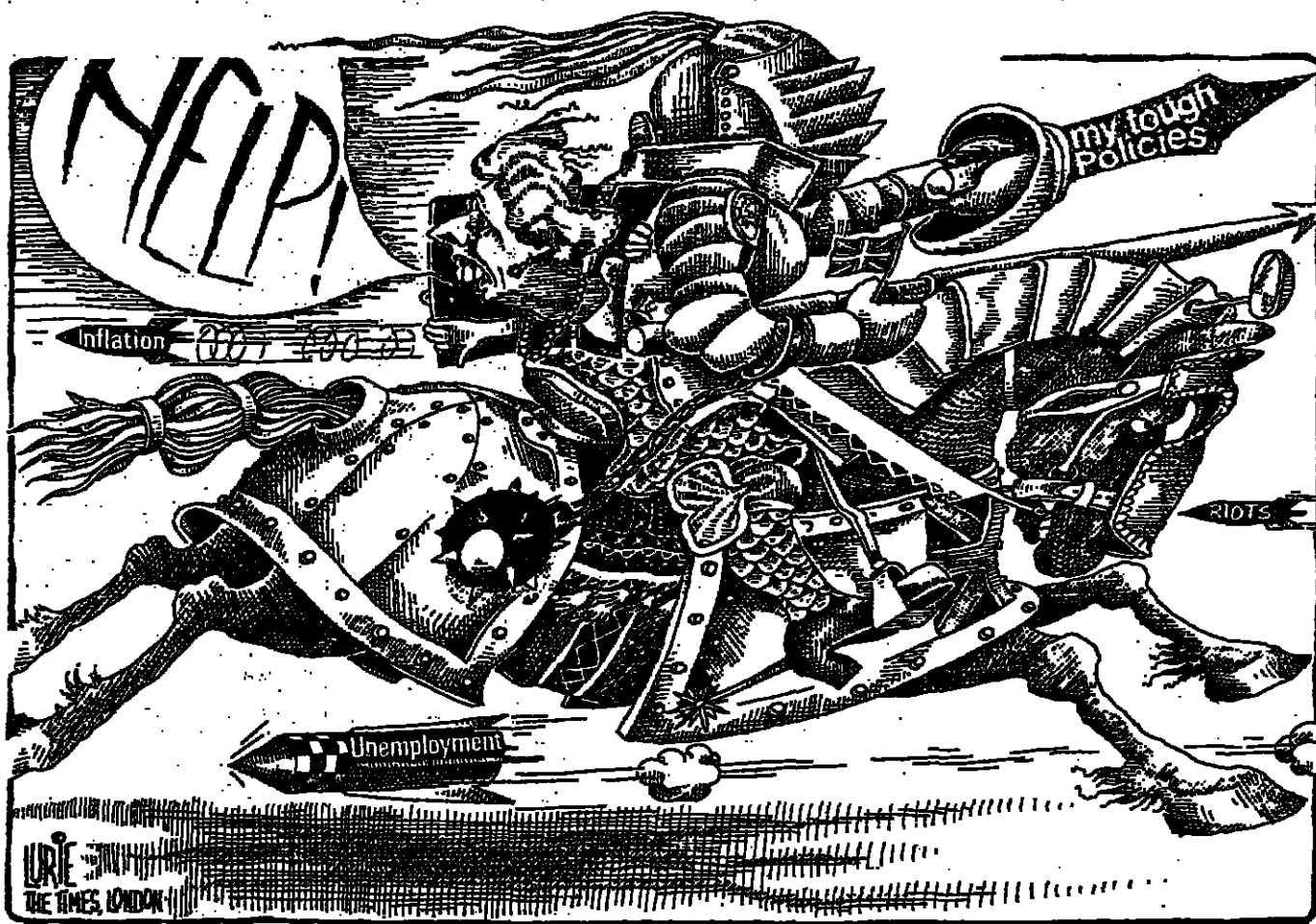
As a former housing action officer he is particularly conscious of the way in which the class system is reflected in the British housing system. "Basically you either own your own house," he says, "and if you rent, you effectively rent from the council and are seen as 'inferior'. I would like to see a much wider spectrum between these two poles with far more co-ownership in various forms."

Mr Pitt's career has changed direction in a similar way to his political views. After a grammar school education, he spent the first 20 years of his working life as a lighting design engineer. Six years ago, however, he felt that his creative drive was no longer being fulfilled in industry, and he joined Lambeth Borough Council.

He describes the two and a half years which he spent at a housing advice centre in Brighton as the most rewarding period of his life. He now works as a technical officer in the environmental health team covering one of the housing action areas where his responsibilities include inspecting the drainage in Raiton Road.

It is all a far cry from his conventional suburban upbringing in a family with strong service connections. (His grandfather was in the army and his father, who was in the RAF, was killed in the Battle of Britain.) In a way, however, his progress from youthful conservatism to middle-aged liberalism echoes the experience of many of those whose votes he will be soliciting some time in the next two or three months.

Croydon, where he has lived all his life, is, after all, only a few miles away from Orpington where 19 years ago a similarly suburban electorate suddenly decided that it was Liberal rather than Conservative.



Commission to rule on phone taps

By a Staff Reporter

The European Commission of Human Rights is to examine the legality of telephone tapping in Britain by the police after allegations by a Surrey antiquities dealer that tapping of his telephone breached the European Convention on Human Rights.

As predicted in *The Times* last November, the commission has ruled that the case, brought by Mr James Malone, of Dorking, Surrey, is admissible, or worthy to be examined. It will now consider the case in detail.

Mr Malone tried unsuccessfully to sue the Metropolitan Police in the High Court in 1979 for tapping his telephone. Sir Robert Megarry, the Vice-Chancellor, ruled that the police had not broken the law but said the control of tapping "cries out for legislation".

In 1977 Mr Malone was charged with offences concerning dishonest handling of stolen goods. After two trials he was acquitted in 1979.

He maintains that since about 1974 he has been kept under police surveillance, his correspondence has been intercepted and his telephone lines have been tapped. The prosecution admitted during his first trial that one telephone conversation had been tapped.

Mr Malone alleges a breach of articles eight and 13 of the convention. Article eight deals with the protection of an individual's right to privacy in his family, home and correspondence, and article 13 with the right to an effective remedy before the national authority concerned. Sir Robert ruled that English courts had no power to give effect to the protections laid down in the European convention, ratified by Britain in 1951. But he said Britain was obliged to secure those rights and freedoms for its citizens.

The Government argues that article eight permits interference under certain conditions.

BUTTERFLIES BATTLE FOR SURVIVAL

A national fund to ensure the future survival of Britain's butterflies has been launched as part of Butterfly Year.

The appeal aims to secure reserves and aid research and land management schemes. "Butterflies are indicative of the general health of our countryside and are becoming rarer as pressures from urban and agricultural developments increase," Mr John Tatham, chairman of the British Butterfly Conservation Society, said. "If butterfly habitats are conserved, other animals and plant life will also benefit."

Scientific surveys have confirmed that most British species are in severe decline and that some have reached crisis point. The large blue butterfly, officially declared extinct in Britain, is alive and well in the Cotswolds, according to a naturalist, John Lodge. He says the butterfly was spotted three times during an expedition he made to the area earlier this month.

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IN BRIEF

Dangerous youth in breakout

A youth said to be dangerous, escaped yesterday from a top-security treatment centre in Birmingham.

Sinclair Hennessey, aged 16, who had been in the Glenhorne Youth Treatment Centre in Erdington, Birmingham, since June, 1979, after admitting the manslaughter of his aunt in Plymouth, escaped by forcing his way through a door and using a grappling rope made of bedding and a piece of iron, scaling an 18-ft security fence.

Crash dead named

Five people died in a head-on collision on the A427 near Ufford, Northamptonshire, on Saturday. Four were named yesterday as Mr Michael Hunter, aged 42, of Hunters House, Lower Benefield, Northamptonshire; his wife Vivien, aged 37; Trudi Stacey, aged 14, of Pickering Road, Hull; and Angela Peck, aged 27, of Dresden Close, Corby.

Jazz festival a hit

More than 8,000 peaceful fans yesterday attended what was claimed to be Britain's biggest jazz festival. On police advice, the Capital Radio festival was moved from Clapham Common, south London, to the grounds of Knebworth House, in Hertfordshire.

Tax dodge Bill

A Bill aimed at stamping out "tax dodging" by companies who siphon off profits to subsidiaries in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man is to be introduced in the autumn by Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for South Ayrshire.

Vets help sharks

Veterinary surgeons from Strick University's institute of aquaculture are trying to save sharks at Marineworld in Florida. Preliminary findings suggest a food allergy is responsible for the sharks' skin disease.

Trawler seized

A Spanish trawler, the *Vallefaraga*, was arrested, accused of using illegal fishing methods 175 miles south-west of Falmouth yesterday and was escorted to Plymouth, where ministry officials were waiting to examine her gear.

Backing for belts

The Royal College of Physicians is backing a clause in the Transport Bill which would make the wearing of seat belts compulsory. The Bill is to be debated in the Commons tomorrow.

Lavender harvested

Britain's fragrant lavender crop is being harvested in North Devon around the Sandringham royal estate. Fifty thousand tourists are expected to see the 100-acre crop gathered in.

Prisoner dead in cell

A man serving a one-month sentence for failing to surrender to bail, imposed at Blackburn Magistrates' Court last week, was found dead in his cell at Liverpool yesterday. He was Joseph Foss, aged 56.

Nalگو tells women to report the office wolf

By Donald Macintyre

Women who face persistent sexual advances from male colleagues at work should call in their trade union to deal with a "widespread but often unreported aspect" of office life.

That advice is contained in a six-point plan, issued by the National and Local Government Officers' Association, to its 400,000 women members on how to cope with the office wolf.

The union, which says it is the first to have issued such guidelines, has found that women often do not report being pestered.

They may think they will not be believed, fear publicity or think that if they repel their harassers they may be refused promotion, given bad jobs or even forced to leave.

The union's equal opportunities committee has advised branches to press employers to state that they will not tolerate sexual harassment and back that up with sanctions.

Meanwhile, women who are pestered in their offices are advised to keep a diary of the incidents and a record of "positive comments" made about their work in case charges are raised later against their competence.

The first recommendation is that a victim should tell "the harasser to stop or make it clear to him that his actions are unwelcome". If that does not work, the woman should inform her shop steward and ask other women if they have been bothered by the man.

The guidelines say that the shop steward should inform the branch secretary at every stage and inform the management of the problem and seek a resolution "before pursuing a formal grievance procedure". If that does not work then the grievance procedure should be continued, but only after thorough discussion with branch representatives.

Ms Sheila Smith, committee chairman, said yesterday that responses to union surveys showed that sexual harassment was going to be an important issue in future, after a long period when it had been regarded as a bit of a joke.

"We want to ensure that sexual harassment is seen as a trade union issue in order to eliminate it."

CHILD'S TAXI FALL

A two-year-old boy was taken to hospital yesterday after opening the door of a taxi and falling under its back wheel on the M4. He is Talal Said, of Belgrave Road, Westminster.

Science report

Dust clouds saved the Earth from radiation

By the Staff of "Nature"

The Milky Way galaxy, of which the Sun and Earth form a part, may have swept itself clean of life by enormous outbursts of radiation every 100 million years or so. That would explain the failure of attempts so far to detect signals produced by some "extra-terrestrial intelligence" despite the probable existence of one billion habitable planets in the galaxy, says Dr J. N. Clarke, of the David Dunlap Observatory, University of Toronto.

It would also tend to suggest that the human race should not be here to comment on the fact; but as Dr Clarke points out, the galaxy is scattered with interstellar dust clouds which could hide a planet from too much radiation. We must have been inside one every time the galaxy is up.

The need for some 30 to 50 such lucky accidents in the lifetime of an habitable planet, before it produced intelligent life (it took over three billion years on Earth), would have thinned out intelligent life in the galaxy quite drastically; and it leaves us waiting, nervously for the next outburst and hoping that we will be inside a dust cloud in time.

Remarkably, that exotic picture is not altogether impossible. The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy, and about 1 in 100 of such spirals are "Seyfert galaxies", with enormously bright nuclei pouring lethal X-rays among their surrounding stars.

These Seyferts have been thought to be permanently bright; but they may instead be ordinary galaxies which switch into the Seyfert state about 1 per cent of the time. Assuming that the "on time" is longer than the few decades for which astronomers have been observing them, that would also account for the observed number of Seyferts. And in fact, three years ago two British astronomers, Dr M. E. Bailey (now at the University of Sussex) and S. V. M. Clube, of the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, collected some significant evidence in favour of this hypothesis, and concluded that brilliant outbursts every million to billion years in the nuclei of large galaxies were quite likely.

Source: *Nature*, vol 46 p 94 (1981).

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Mentally ill prisoners roam free, MP claims

By a Staff Reporter

The public is being endangered because mentally disordered prisoners with convictions for offences such as wounding, assault, incest and arson are being released to wander the streets, an MP claims today.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the parliamentary all-party penal affairs group, says he has been told in parliamentary answers by Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, that seven such prisoners have been released from prison so far this year, even though the Home Secretary considers they should have been detained in hospital.

He was also told that before the year was over a further six mentally disordered prisoners would be released, one of them a man with a conviction for robbery with violence, unless hospitals are prepared to accept them.

The public is being endangered because mentally disordered prisoners with convictions for offences such as wounding, assault, incest and arson are being released to wander the streets, an MP claims today.

Mr Kilroy-Silk said: "It is extremely disturbing that the public should be endangered because the Home Secretary is obliged to release such people into the community even though he admits that they require attention in hospital under the terms of the Mental Health Act 1959."

"Equally important is the fact that these prisoners are being denied the medical treatment and nursing care which is their right and which the NHS has a obligation to provide," he said. "The National Health Service and its staff will not voluntarily meet their obligations to these offenders, and to the public, then legislation must be introduced to make them, Mr Kilroy-Silk said.

Psychiatric hospitals will not admit these patients because the offenders are potentially violent or disruptive.

Although regional secure psychiatric units had been recommended as long ago as 1974 as a matter of urgency in the Butler report on mentally abnormal offenders, and 14 regional health authorities had received a total £46m from the Government specifically to set up the units, only one, in Middlesbrough, had so far been opened, he said.

In its report on the prison service published last week, the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs, of which Mr Kilroy-Silk is a member recommended that legislation be introduced to require the provision of NHS places for any mentally disordered offender on whom the court made a hospital order.

In another parliamentary answer Mr Mayhew has dis-

closed that 36 prisoners who have been recommended for transfer to hospital under section 72 of the Mental Health Act, but have not yet been given hospital places.

They have committed such offences as murder, manslaughter, arson, malicious assault, rape and robbery with violence. Among them are the six due to be released this year if not place is found.

Mr Tony Smythe, national director of Mind, the National Association for Mental Health, yesterday criticized Mr Kilroy-Silk for creating an image of "raving madmen being released on to the streets to commit offences".

There was no evidence, he said, that mental hospitals would not take offenders once they had finished their sentences, although they were sometimes reluctant to take those still completing their sentences or transferring from special mental hospitals.

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Protesters picket games for disabled

Anti-apartheid demonstrators picketed Stoke Mandeville Hospital, in Buckinghamshire yesterday as the international games for the disabled opened in the hospital's new sports stadium.

Despite appeals from about 50 demonstrators to be banned from the games, the event, involving 800 competitors from about 40 countries, got under way without trouble.

The banner-waving demonstrators, including several in wheelchairs, said that eight countries had withdrawn from the games because of the South African presence.

The organizers, however, said that although some countries had withdrawn in previous years over the issue, none had joined this year and five nations new to the games were taking part.

The South African team of 34 members included seven blacks. Mr Peter Goldhawk, their team manager, said: "The South African team is selected purely on merit. Our organization and our team are non-racial."

Members of the South African team came to the stadium face with the demonstrators before the games started. There was a brief argument. Police officers stood by, but there was no trouble.

The police banned the demonstrators from entering the stadium's £1,500,000 new Olympic village, but several managed to get in.

Among the protesters was Mr Bernard Leach, from Manchester, who is a poliomyelitis victim. He had been selected to take part in the games for the first time, in five swimming events.

Mr Leach, aged 34, the British disabled freestyle record holder, said: "When I discovered that South Africa was participating, I wrote to the organizers telling them I was withdrawing in protest."

In his letter to Miss Joan Scruton, secretary general of the International Year of Disabled People, he said: "No doubt I will be accused of bringing politics into sport, but simply the fact that you invited an artificially 'mixed' team from South Africa means that you have brought politics into sport by providing the South African team."

Mr Scruton has been told by the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee that she will be recommended for inclusion in the United Nations sporting blacklist unless she bans the South Africans.

But she said yesterday that the South Africans were participating in the games by right, not by invitation.

Mr John Carlisle, Conservative MP for Luton, West, said on Saturday that the proposal to blacklist Miss Scruton was disgraceful. He would raise the matter in the Commons next Friday.

TUC wants to stop police disclosing convictions

By Our Labour Correspondent

The TUC is to bring pressure on Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to withdraw the standing instruction to the police to inform civil servants and Post Office employees of the criminal convictions of their employees.

At the prompting of the largest Civil Service union, the Civil and Public Services Association, the TUC is writing to Mr Whitelaw seeking a review of the 1973 Home Office instruction, which requires the police to give such details "in the interests of security".

Union leaders want the instruction, issued by Mr Robert Carr (now Lord Carr of Hadley) when Home Secretary to be relaxed at least so as to

Anger over father's deportation

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham



Mr Denis Howell: Apology from minister.

Disenchantment and disillusion were being expressed about "unsympathetic and bureaucratic" procedures involving the health of visiting relatives from abroad arriving at Heathrow airport, an MP said yesterday.

Mr Denis Howell, Labour MP for South East, Birmingham, said he was calling for a wide range of some of the airport's arrangements, and continued: "The Home Office and Department of Health and Social Security have no idea of the harm they are doing to community relations by the unsympathetic bureaucracy imposed on people arriving here to visit relatives."

Mr Howell said that even from official figures there was a 50 per cent rate of error involving the number of people refused entry on health grounds and subsequently found to be clear.

He had protested to Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, about the deportation of a family on Friday night of a man aged 56 from Karachi who had arrived earlier this month to visit his son in Birmingham but was refused entry on health grounds and subsequently found to be clear.

The man's son and a community leader had been told by an immigration officer that if they could pay for treatment for Mr Qamar Ali he could stay.

The son, Mr Ghulam Abbas, aged 39, a carpenter, of Salford, said he had been told by the immigration officer that he could pay for treatment for his father, but had immediately raised £2,000 from relatives in

the city. That was paid to Birmingham Area Health Authority in the expectation of his father being allowed to have treatment at East Birmingham Hospital.

Dr Craig Skinner, a consultant in pulmonary diseases at the hospital, accepted him as a patient and said that if necessary he would go to Heathrow to collect him. Mr Howell said every guarantee was given that the father's visit was for two months only.

He continued: "At first I was told by the Home Office that the father could not come in because he had a form of tuberculosis which might become infectious within a day or so."

"I took advice on this from medical officers in the Midlands, who said: 'Such an explanation is unmitigated nonsense.' When I told them that the Home Office intended putting this man on an aircraft with a hundred or so other people, a chief medical officer could only say: 'My God, no.'"

"I object to being told codswallop such as the father having TB that might be infectious in one or two days. I have never heard of any such condition; either you have infectious TB or you don't."

In his reply Mr Whitelaw said that Mr Howell rightly took exception to the tone of some of the personal references made to him in a report by a senior officer of the immigration service.

The officer had said that perhaps the hospital had been "stamped" into discharging Mr Ali by Mr Howell, and remarked: "If so, and the passenger has active TB and infects some young children, then Mr Howell really will have caused a complaint."

Mr Whitelaw said: "I ask you to accept my apologies for these references and for the offence which they have caused. I have left the immigration service in no doubt of the importance which I attach to representations from MPs being considered courteously and objectively. I believe, in fact, that their record in this respect is excellent."

He did not accept that decisions taken in the case were incorrect.

Pay talks in port dispute to resume

From Our Correspondent

A mass meeting of about 2,500 Mersey dockers in the Liverpool Boxing Stadium yesterday voted overwhelmingly to "wipe the slate clean" on the three-month pay deadlock to enable negotiations to resume.

The port employers then withdrew their warning to introduce changes in working practices from today. The port modernization committee, comprising employers' and transport union representatives will resume talks this morning on the basis of a "blank sheet of paper".

The vote clearly shows the dockers' acceptance that any pay rise must be accompanied by changes in working practices, which had been the sticking-point throughout.

"They also agreed that there would be no further disruption of the Mersey docks, such as the six-day token cargo handling strikes held so far."

Mr Denis Kelly, chairman of the Mersey docks shop stewards, said later he hoped there could be agreement within two weeks.

Gallery nears target to save Algardi

By Frances Gibb

A seventeenth-century marble bust by Alessandro Algardi of an Italian cleric, Mr Cerri, looks certain to be saved from export to the Metropolitan Museum in New York by the Manchester City Art Gallery.

The gallery has raised all but about £24,000 of the £265,000 needed to buy the sculpture and is hopeful of finding the balance by the deadline of August 21.

The bust was bought at a Christie's sale in September, 1979, by Agnew's the London art dealers for £165,000 and sold shortly afterwards to the Metropolitan Museum in New York for £265,000.

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, then Minister for the Arts, put an embargo on an export licence to give British collections a chance to match the purchase price and save the work from export. That embargo expired on August 21.

Manchester has been offered £132,500 from the Government fund for regional purchases run by the Victoria and Albert Museum and £30,000 by the National Art-Collections Fund, a charitable trust, and has

raised more than £45,000 by a public appeal.

If it can find a further £24,000 by public appeal it is understood that the National Heritage Memorial Fund will provide overall remaining £33,000 or so to clinch the deal.

But even if Manchester succeeds in saving the Algardi, it has another difficulty. It has also launched an appeal for funds to save a painting by the seventeenth-century French master, Nicolas Poussin, formerly owned by the Duke of Devonshire, from being exported to California.

The gallery has to find £1.8m by September 12 if the Poussin, sold by the duke at Christie's in April to raise funds to endow Chatsworth, is not to go to the Paul Getty Museum, in Malibu, and the Norton Simon Museum, in Pasadena, which have jointly bought the work.

Mr Hugh Leggett, secretary of Heritage in Danger, said yesterday: "Support must be forthcoming for this urgent appeal, because the work is of ravishing beauty and of supreme cultural importance."

Amnesty to relieve French jail crowding

From Our Own Correspondent

Paris, July 26

France's far-reaching Amnesty Bill, which the Senate voted unanimously, goes to the National Assembly this week. It is designed not only to demonstrate what Mr Robert Badinter, the Minister of Justice, calls the desire for national reconciliation of the left, but also to provide a temporary solution to the explosive problem of overcrowding in French prisons.

In that respect the situation in France is as bad as it is in Britain, with its aggravating circumstance, that nearly half — 43.1 per cent to be precise — of the French prison population is made up of persons awaiting trial.

The amnesty, when it becomes law this week, will affect about 5,000 people, those serving sentences of less than six months, those sentenced for "crimes against state security," those guilty of "economic crimes" and conscientious objectors and deserters.

In addition, another 4,775 people were granted a presidential pardon on July 14, although these would have fallen within the scope of the amnesty law in any case. But it means that the French prison population will drop by about 9,000 this summer. Conditional release is a normal feature of the French system.

For the Minister of Justice, this comes none too soon. He held a press conference earlier this month that the prisons were in a state of crisis. There were 40,552 people behind bars, an accommodation for only 30,000. This meant that the overpopulation of some prisons was around 200 per cent.

"Every day, I hope it will not be too hot for the temperature," he said. "It might, he added, lead to an explosion at any moment. Such an explosion took place after M Giscard d'Estaing took office in 1974, and led to a far-reaching penal reform, but the Government was back then in a perilous position of rising crime, strikes, and a feeling of insecurity in public opinion."

That feeling of insecurity is still very strong, and the announcement of the presidential pardon along with the release of a first batch of 1,500 prisoners last week, has little or no hope of finding honest work, and who would therefore almost inevitably revert to crime, has heightened it.

The Government has made some additional funds available for the rehabilitation of ex-prisoners, but they are grossly inadequate. The administrative services which handle them are overwhelmed. Already the press is giving some prominence to those few cases in which, after a few days outside, ex-prisoners have fallen back into crime.

But the Government obviously prefers to reduce the tension in the prisons, where and this is another aspect of the problem — the same number of warders is supposed to look after 15,000 prisoners more than was planned for, even at the risk of temporarily increasing insecurity, until additional accommodation is made available, in open prisons, or prison camps, of which there are a few already in this country.

The minister also plans to reduce the imprisonment of minors as much as possible, to improve the possibility of substituting other measures of control, and to curb the irrepressible urge of most French judges to play safe and keep people behind bars before trial, even when it is not strictly necessary.

Several attempts were made to do this while M Giscard d'Estaing was President, but they were abandoned against deeply ingrained habits and routine.

General's warning to Spain

From Harry Debelius

A leading Spanish general, representing King Juan Carlos at a ceremonial occasion, repeatedly reminded the Spanish people this weekend that it was the duty of the armed forces to prevent the destruction of the unity of the Fatherland.

He listed General Franco among the nation's heroes, and gave a warning against an enemy which had infiltrated even the church in an effort "to destroy our spiritual and moral values".

Lieutenant General Manuel Fernandez Posse made the remarks in the form of an appeal to Spain's religious patron, St James the Apostle, which he delivered on his knees at the saint's shrine in the north-western city of Santiago de Compostela yesterday, the saint's feast day. The scene was broadcast by the state-run television network.

General Fernandez Posse, commander of Spain's eighth military district, which takes in the north-western corner of the country, referred to "the high honour of acting in representation of His Majesty the King" but there was no indication of whether the text of his speech was cleared beforehand by the King's staff.

Traditionally, the head of state delivers the invocation during holy years, and a military man represents him in other years. The King himself spoke at the annual ceremony in 1976.

Political links in murder of French police inspector

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 26

Pierre Debizet, aged 59, the secretary-general of the Service d'Action Civique (SAC), the Gaullist strong arm organization set up in 1958 and involved in the past two decades in several political scandals, was charged today in connection with the murder of a week ago at Auril, near Marseilles, of M Jacques Massie, a junior police inspector, and until recently the local head of the organization.

With M Debizet's arrest, the murder of M Massie and of five members of his family, has taken on a distinctly political character. M Debizet, who was questioned by the police in Paris for the last 48 hours, is to be transferred to Marseilles in the next few days. There he will be confronted with M Jean-Bruno Finochiet, aged 31, a teacher and member of the SAC, and three other persons.

So far only one body has been found, that of the police inspector. Investigators are still searching for traces of the other five victims, including M Massie's eight-year-old son.

The Government is determined to leave no stone unturned. M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, who was inaugurating the Poitiers-Bordeaux motorway yesterday, said that the mystery would be cleared up, whatever the importance of the case. The persons who might be found to have organized the murders.

The Government would not tolerate individuals or groups attempting to revive a form of activism contrary to all the elementary rules of democracy. M Gaston Defferre, the Minister of the Interior, assured the police a few days ago that

they could count on him, however powerful the people who might be implicated. He also announced his intention of moving more vigorously than the previous Government against extreme right-wing organizations.

At the Gaullist headquarters, surprise was expressed last week at the attempt being made to exploit for political purposes what in the party's view is a straightforward common-law crime. It maintained that the SAC was totally independent of the Gaullist movement.

But it was also said it was dishonest to discredit a whole organisation because of the misdeeds of a few black sheep.

There is no denying the political flavour of the affair, however, and its ramifications with the police. M Bernard Deleury, the secretary-general of the Police Union Federation of France, said in an interview last week that many senior members of the force had close connections with the SAC.

Rajai set for massive win in Iran presidential poll

Tehran, July 26 — Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Iranian Prime Minister, today seemed set for an overwhelming victory in the presidential election.

According to the partial results released this afternoon, Mr Rajai has already overtaken the total of 10,700,000 votes that gave Mr Abdolhasan Bani-Sadr the Presidency in January, 1980. Mr Bani-Sadr was deposed last month after a power struggle with the Muslim fundamentalist clerics.

Mr Rajai, a former mathematics teacher, is the candidate of the dominant Islamic Republican Party.

Although there were three other candidates on Friday for the election, the Prime Minister is said to have won 11,820,494 votes, or 90 per cent of the ballot count.

Final results will not be released until late tomorrow, and Mr Rajai probably will not be sworn in until next weekend.

About 70 people had planned to run for the presidency, or were eliminated after suitability checks by the fundamentalist-dominated Parliament.

The wave of violence, that has shaken the country since the election campaign began, continued today. At least 15 people have been killed since Friday. Eleven of the 13 dead

were revolutionary guards, according to government officials.

A journalist for the English-language daily Kayhan died of wounds he suffered on Friday, and in the northern province of Gilan, the Mayor of Rezvan-shahr and several members of his family were wounded by two hand grenades, Tehran Radio reported.

Also in Gilan, the province's newly-elected governor, and his deputy, narrowly escaped an assassination attempt last night, Pars news agency said.

More than 200 opponents of the regime have been killed since the Government's crackdown began four weeks ago. On Friday 120 people were arrested in Tehran alone.

Two people accused of "spying for Israel and Zionism" and of having contacts with the regime of the late Shah were executed in Kermanshah, eastern Iran, today Tehran radio said.

Iranian revolutionary guards today seized more than 300 weapons and 40,000 rounds of ammunition in the capital when they raided five centres of the Marxist-Leninist opposition movement Peykar, the radio said. Guards also arrested 18 people on corruption charges, because

Leading article, page 11

Dark days after Zia's death

From Trevor Fishlock, Dacca, July 26

The mood in Bangladesh these days is one of anxiety and pessimism. Rudderless without the dynamic President Zia-ur-Rahman, the country moves uneasily towards the autumn presidential election, crucible of its democratic aspirations. The Army waits in the wings to see if the politicians falter.

It is assumed that Mr Abdus Sattar, the Acting President, will win. Bangladeshis are looking beyond that event to the important matter of who will be the Vice-President and eventual ruler.

Mr Sattar plays a bridling role. A few hours after President Zia was murdered on May 30, he was taken from his Dacca hospital bed and sworn in as Acting President. President Zia's civilian framework held.

Had Mr Sattar been younger and fitter he would have been a good replacement. He is an energetic and frail and there are doubts about his ability to complete a five-year term.

He said last month that he was too ill to run for the presidency, but the Bangladesh National Party (BNP), created as President Zia's political vehicle and seed-bed "to grow democracy", had no choice but to nominate him. He is the only figure neutral enough to be acceptable to the majority of people.

BNP, which has two thirds of the National Assembly seats, is a coalition whose factions were kept united by President Zia's firmness and whose long-term unity is now open to question.

No one wants the Army back in power and BNP members are not pushing factional ambitions.

Rivalry between Dr Chowdhury and Mr Shah Aziz is a possible source of a split in the party.

In setting the election date for September 21, the ruling party seems to the Opposition to betray a lack of confidence in itself, a reluctance to enter a completely open election.

Opposition parties have united to demand that the election be held in November, arguing that the country will still be flooded by monsoon rains in September — it will be difficult to campaign and difficult for people to obey the Government's exhortation to vote.

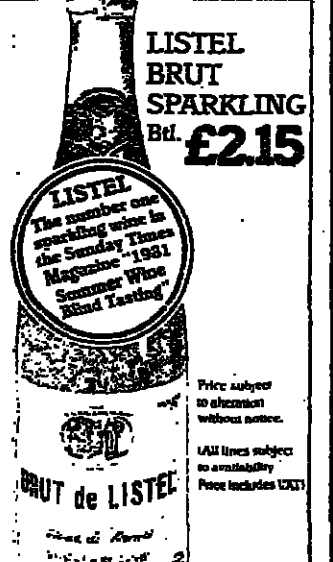
The Opposition wants the election moved as one of their conditions for participation. They also want the lifting of the state of emergency (under which the Government has not so far acted) and equal access to newspapers and television.

The Government feels that the sooner the election is held the better. Mr Sattar cannot campaign and the party wants voting to take place while the leadership and death of the President are still strong in the public memory.

If the election date is changed, as it might be, opposition parties (there are 55 registered) still have to decide whether to put up candidates.

The Awami League, Sheikh Mujib's vehicle, is under pressure from party workers who are dismayed by the prospect of their party boycotting this election, as it did last time. The league is split into pro- and anti-Moscow factions and would need a candidate acceptable to both.

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JAIL STAFF REPORT FOR DPP

By Our Crime Reporter

A report by Scotland Yard detectives on allegations of unprovoked violence by prison officers during a demonstration in Wormwood Scrubs prison is to be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions after an 18-month investigation.

A minimum use of force tactical intervention squad, nicknamed MUFTI in the prison service, was used to deal with a demonstration about prison conditions in August, 1979. More than fifty prisoners and 11 officers were injured.

Yesterday Scotland Yard said they expected the report by detectives to go to Sir Thomas Heatherington, the DPP, soon. Hundreds of prisoners and prison officers and some civilians were interviewed.

NEW-HEART MAN BACK AT WORK

Mr Derrick Morris, the longest surviving patient who has received a heart transplant at Harefield Hospital, Hillingdon, London, is no return to work today, the first time for two years.

"It is great. I really thought a 40-hour week was a thing of the past for me," he said. Mr Morris, aged 50, is a supervisor at Swansea Docks. He was given a new heart in February last year.

New rules on benefits 'baffling'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Government claims that the reformed supplementary benefit system would be simpler are contested today by Lord Scarman in a foreword to the new edition of the Penguin Guide to Supplementary Benefits.

At the same time, the guide's author accuses the Government of failing to honour its commitment to inform claimants of their new rights.

Lord Scarman points out that the reformed system introduced last November replaced the discretion of the old system with detailed obligations imposed by regulations.

"A high price has to be paid for converting discretion into legal rules: it is the price of complexity."

Mr Anthony Lynes, author of the guide and visiting research associate to the law department of the London School of Economics, in a letter to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, says claimants are compelled to seek information from whatever unofficial sources they can find.

The only official publication giving the full text of the new regulations has more than doubled in price since last November to £26.50 because of repeated amendments to the regulations. New amendments coming into force today will bring the price to over £30. The Penguin Guide to Supplementary Benefits, by Tony Lynes, £2.50.

Yesterday Scotland Yard said they expected the report by detectives to go to Sir Thomas Heatherington, the DPP, soon. Hundreds of prisoners and prison officers and some civilians were interviewed.

Unholy row knocks out unrepentant St John's

From Our Correspondent, Nottingham

Feelings were far from saintly when an unholy dispute broke out at an inter-churches Is-a-Knockout contest between worshippers from St Peter and St Paul's, St Mary's, and St John's Anglican congregations. Spectators were stunned by what they saw and heard during the mixed teams at Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, when competitors, casting aside Christian brotherhood, shouted and argued with each other during angry scenes in the five-a-side football.

After being warned about their conduct over the loudspeaker, St John's stormed off.

Their vicar, the Rev Graham Herritt, who admits challenging the referee, supports their action.

One of the organisers said yesterday: "The trouble was that St John's kept challenging referees' decisions until bad feeling crept into the competition. They spoilt the day for everyone."

That is denied by Mr Herritt, a former football referee. "My parishioners merely showed a combative spirit, which I think is good for such an event. It was never our intention to spoil it and it is quite wrong to blame us for what happened," he said.

Salerooms and Antiques are featured every TUESDAY ring 01-278 9231

Australian winter worsened by strikes

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, July 26

Australia has suddenly been hit by a gloom as the strikes which put doubt on the attendance of Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, at the royal wedding make winter seem bleak.

Because of a strike by transport drivers, perishable foods are in extremely short supply. The Transport Workers Union has allowed the delivery of milk, which at first was running out, but supermarket shelves are emptying.

Airline services could be disrupted tomorrow because of a refuellers' strike, and bans by workers at Telecom, the government-owned communications service, are threatening to disrupt telephone services again as they did last month, and even the telecast of the royal wedding is threatened.

Furthermore, because of a sympathy strike by tanker drivers, petrol is in short supply and rationing has been imposed in Victoria.

Canberra: Two of the disputes may be near settlement after the federal Government and the trade union leaders reached a compromise in emergency talks here (Reuters reports).

Mr Clifford Dolan, president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, said he would recommend an end to the strikes by lorry drivers and telecommunication clerks, and the Prime Minister agreed to drop moves to de-register the Transport Workers Union.

Anarchy reigns in New Zealand after halt to match

From David Ellis, Hamilton, New Zealand, July 26

A Second World War pilot in a stolen aircraft forced the cancellation of yesterday's Springbok rugby game because of fears that he was about to take a suicide dive at the packed grandstand.

The man, who called himself Mr Ellis, was only four minutes flying time from the ground when spectators were told the game had been cancelled.

The incident reached its climax a few seconds later when Mr Ellis, who was seen in a stolen aircraft and a helicopter commandeered by police, intercepted Mr Ellis and forced him to land.

The ingredients for a disaster appeared to be all there. There were still five minutes to go before the 3.15 pm deadline the police had set to call the game off if the 300 demonstrators on the centre field could not be cleared.

It was a deadline that could have been put back a further 15 minutes, but when it was learned that Mr Ellis in the stolen aircraft was within striking distance of the Police Commissioner, Mr Robert Watson, had no further options.

He had to call off the game and get the stand cleared without causing a job which took a full 10 minutes.

After the cancellation New Zealand descended into a state of anarchy. The demonstrators, fulfilling a promise to make the country unpoliceable, took over the streets as well as the Hamilton ground and then paid the consequences.

Their calls for help went unanswered when rugby fans went on a furious rampage through the town seeking out anyone even remotely suspected of being against the Springboks' tour. The police were too busy processing 80 arrested demonstrators and assessing, in debriefing sessions, what went wrong.

They said they could not spare an officer when two men walked into the home of a Hamilton doctor, seized two antique chairs and smashed them over the head of Mr John Minto, the national coordinator of the Anti-Apartheid movement and Mr Richard Cuthbert, a national council member.

They could not even come to the assistance of a group of demonstrators who had been held up in a house near the rugby park, preventing an injured man from being taken to hospital in an ambulance.

In the week the Springboks have been in the country, Christchurch airport has been bombed, there have been petrol bombings and arson incidents, buildings have been occupied, motorways blocked, and fences torn down.

The result of Saturday's successful demonstration was a hoard of fistfuling angry fans who were ready to attack anyone with a camera or a megaphone. The fear for the future now is that as the anti-apartheid activity escalates, so will the reaction.

Harsh reception in store for refugees

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, July 26

Thailand has begun a radio campaign to deter boat refugees from leaving Vietnam. Broadcasts from Radio Free Asia, the special Thai station directed at Indo-China, are warning the Vietnamese that refugees arriving on the Thai coast after August 15 will be admitted only to a detention centre on a remote island and will be barred from resettlement in third countries.

The Thai Government is also issuing statements about its tough new policy to the BBC, Radio Australia and the Voice of America, whose broadcasts they blame for encouraging the Vietnamese to flee their homeland.

An officer of the Thai supreme command said the ban on resettlement of new refugees would last several years.

He said Vietnamese arriving after August 15 would be detained on an island in conditions harsher than those in existing mainland camps. Two camps where Vietnamese are now accommodated would close soon.

Representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees are now seeking details of this tougher regime. UNHCR officials privately cast doubt on Thai threats to exclude refugees from resettlement.

In another show of impatience with the refugee problem the Thai authorities have asked the International Committee of the Red Cross to make new approaches to the Hanoi Government about the repatriation of tens of thousands of long-term Vietnamese refugees.

Some came to Thailand in the final stages of the Second World War and others towards the end of the French war in Vietnam in 1954.

Thailand has always insisted that all of them must go home, although many were born in Thailand, and have a Thai parent or even grandparent. The two governments have not discussed the issue since December, 1978, when Vietnam agreed to take only 3,000, although nothing came of that offer.

Thai troops are to launch operations against communist strongholds in southern Surat Thani province after insurgents blew up a railway bridge on Thursday night, cutting Bangkok's rail link with southern Thailand for 18 hours (AFP reports).

KADAR IN RUSSIA

Budapest.—Mr Janos Kadar, the Hungarian party leader, left here by air for the Soviet Union and a short holiday at the invitation of the Soviet Communist Party, Hungarian radio announced.

GUERRILLAS DIE

Guatemala City.—Government security forces killed eight leftist guerrillas, including two women, in a three-hour shootout in the Guatemalan capital, witnesses and a government official said.

Lagos court overrules politicians' expulsion

From Karan Thapar
Lagos, July 26

A Lagos high court has ruled against the expulsion of the Governor of Kano state and the recently impeached Governor of Kaduna state from the People's Redemption Party (PRP) of Nigeria.

In his ruling, Mr Justice Akibode-Savage, declared that the expulsion was against the constitution of the party. Only the party's national convention had the authority to take such action, the judge pointed out. Therefore, he overruled the expulsion of Alhaji Abubakar Rimi, the Governor of Kano, and of Alhaji Balarabe Musa, the former Kaduna Governor, by the PRP's national directorate in August, 1980.

In his response to the court's ruling, Mr Sam Ikoku, the national secretary-general of the PRP, said that the verdict was "a useless academic exercise that left things very much as they were."

Arguing that the two politicians were still expelled, Mr Ikoku said that a PRP national convention held in December, 1980, had approved their expulsion.

Mr Ikoku further claimed that the two politicians had "won the battle in legal niceties (but) they have succeeded in imprisoning themselves politically."

After their expulsion from the PRP last August, the two politicians set up their own "true" rival People's Redemption Party.



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THE TIMES

Protests in West Berlin at treatment of Tamils

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, July 26

West Berlin organizations are protesting at the police treatment of hundreds of Tamils from Sri Lanka, who have come to the city with visions of streets paved with gold and now a serious headache for the over-burdened city authorities.

Some 1,000 Tamils have come on cheap Soviet Aeroflot flights from Sri Lanka via Moscow to East Berlin, where they pass without border checks into West Berlin.

They appear to be the victims of unscrupulous racketeers who promise them jobs they cannot get at home, good pay and political stability. Many sold all their jewelry and possessions to scrape together the money for a one-way ticket. Some say they come to escape persecution by the Buddhist majority in Sri Lanka.

They do not know that unless they can get political asylum they are not allowed to work here, that West Berlin is already full of foreigners who are a heavy burden on its subsidized economy, or even that West Berlin is not in West Germany.

Last week 125 were flown back to Colombo after voluntarily agreeing to return. About

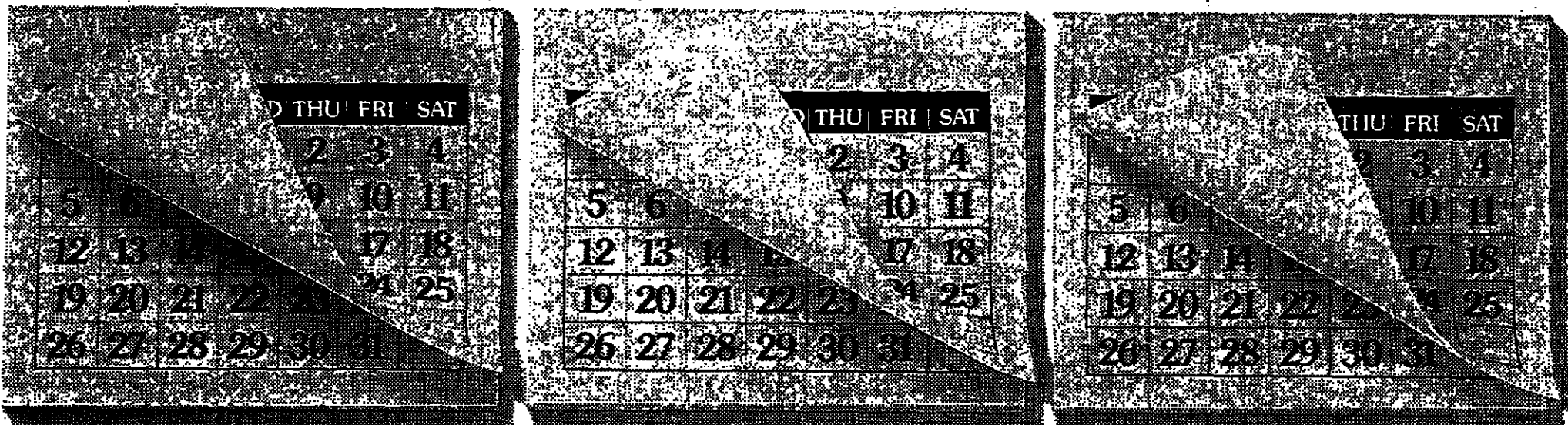
50 were promptly arrested despite assurances that they would not be persecuted at home. West German journalists who accompanied them, reported that the Colombo police stopped a press conference with the West German ambassador and a promised press conference with Mr Shabul Hameed, the Foreign Minister, was cancelled. The journalists were told to leave Sri Lanka as soon as possible.

It has since been reported that all have been released except for six suspected of forging their passports. Meanwhile West Berlin police have detained another 140 Tamils for possible deportation on the grounds that they did not have the necessary entry visas.

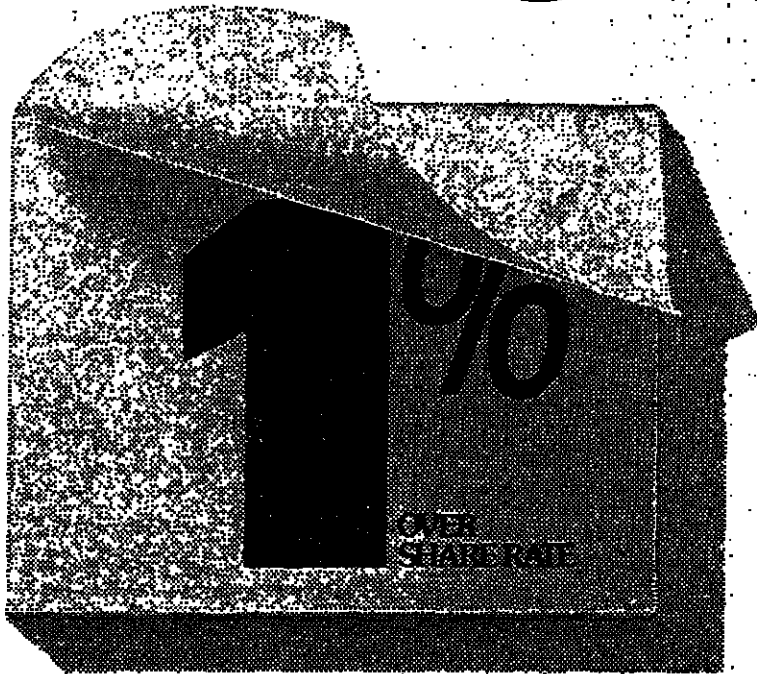
The opposition parties have accused the police of deliberately detaining the Tamils before they could have a chance to ask for asylum and of failing to inform them of their rights. They have demanded full information about the circumstances in which the others returned.

The West Berlin Senate is to decide on the future of the 140 on Tuesday.

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Prisoners of conscience



Romania: Doru Bodnariuc

By Caroline Moorehead

After a placard demonstration in support of his right to emigrate, Doru Bodnariuc, a Romanian journalist, aged 24, has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment for "seriously disturbing the public peace".

The protest took place in his home town of Medias in the county of Sibiu, Transylvania, in September 1979, after Mr Bodnariuc and his friend, Mr Gerhardt Kloos, a welder, had been refused permission to leave the country.

At their trial the two men are understood to have been denied the right to legal defence.

Furthermore, their witnesses are said to have been banned from giving evidence. The Romanian Government puts strict limits on emigration. Mr Bodnariuc and Mr Kloos are only two of many people who have had their applications refused in recent years. Their sentences are not unusual. People who apply to emigrate have been subjected to a variety of reprisals ranging from harassment to loss of employment to imprisonment or detention in psychiatric institutions.

Those wishing to leave Romania have been charged with "parasitical conduct", "antisocial behaviour" or "homosexual acts". Two drivers, from Bucharest, Paul Chiracu and Nicolae Jeleu, were jailed in 1978 when, their application to emigrate refused, they threatened themselves and their families into an apartment and proclaimed a hunger strike.

Mr Bodnariuc is being held in Aiud prison where conditions are notoriously bad. Like many of the prisoners, he is now said to be in poor health. Mr Bodnariuc is lame in one leg, from a beating by the police in 1973 after an earlier attempt to leave Romania.

Amin troops freed in Uganda

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, July 26

A total of 1,420 former Ugandan soldiers, who surrendered when President Idi Amin was ousted more than two years ago, were freed from Luzira prison, near Kampala, yesterday. Another 1,600 prisoners, most of them former soldiers, have still to be freed under an order announced by President Obote in May.

Release of the prisoners will solve some of the problems of overcrowding in Uganda's prisons. The main jail at Luzira, overlooking Lake Victoria, has frequently been short of food and water for its 5,000 prisoners, held in accommodation designed for fewer than half that number.

None of those now released has been charged, but the Ugandan authorities have been reluctant to free men who served in the Amin forces, fearing that they would increase the country's already serious internal security problems.

The Vice-President, Paulo Muwanga, addressed the men at the prison and urged them to forget the past and work for the reconstruction of Uganda. He cautioned them against joining the bandits now carrying out guerrilla attacks.

Mr Bob Astels, aged 60, from Ashford, Kent, who is the only white man in Luzira prison, was not among those released. He has been held for more than two years, at times reduced to eating rats when prison rations ran short.

He denies charges of murder and robbery, allegedly committed when he was head of an anti-corruption squad for Amin. A Kampala magistrate recently committed him to the Ugandan High Court for trial, after receiving a summary of the state evidence. If found guilty, he will be liable to a sentence of death by hanging.

RUSSIANS JAILED OVER BRIBES

Moscow.—Two Soviet agricultural officials have been jailed for taking bribes to falsify the quality of sub-standard wool procured for state factories, a Russian newspaper reported. Mikhail Gorelov, was sentenced to 12 years in prison and confiscation of his property. A man identified as Voronov got a 10-year term and accomplices received various punishments.—AP.

Polish unions reject plan for higher food prices

Warsaw, July 26—Solidarity, Poland's independent trade union, today rejected the Government's proposed 200 to 400 per cent food price rises, adding a new ingredient to an already simmering union-Government debate over how to ease Poland's food crisis.

Solidarity has already threatened to use all means, strikes included, to reverse a Government-proposed 20 per cent cut in meat rations next month necessitated by short supplies.

Union and Government negotiators planned to meet tomorrow to discuss food distribution problems and a proposed cut in the 3.5 kilograms (7.7lb) monthly meat ration a person.

A Solidarity spokesman said the union might accept the cut if it were limited to August only, but added that "if it goes on much longer, then we will have to make a decision."

Chronic meat shortages have worsened since the labour unrests triggered by last summer's price rises led to the formation of Solidarity. Since then, sugar rations have been cut and food appears to be in ever shorter supply.

The shortages led in the first organized "hunger march" in Poland yesterday in which more than 1,000 people marched through the town of Kutno to dramatize their plight.

The protest there, and others in Torun and Szczecin, will be repeated this week by bus drivers, women and children in Lodz, Poland's second largest city.

In yesterday's hunger march, men, women and children of all ages, some waving empty pans, paraded with banners saying "We are hungry." "We want a

life worthy of a civilized nation," and "Economic reform yes, higher prices no."

The protesters over shortages of meat, butter, eggs and other staples, coupled with sharp reactions by Solidarity and some workers to the proposed price rises, illustrate the Government's dilemma as it tries to stabilize the market situation.

The Solidarity spokesman, recalling that food price rises led to riots in 1970 and 1976 and strikes last summer, said the proposed compensation plans should be debated publicly before being imposed.

"The union cannot accept the price increases without first putting the issue of compensation to public discussion and without them being tied to the general economic reform," the spokesman said.

Solidarity feels that there should be a campaign in the mass media to achieve such acceptance, and that its own publications lack the circulation to do the job.

"For the society to accept it, they have to know the pros and cons and that means it is not enough to write out what the system of compensation will be," the spokesman said, "it has to be talked about."

Mr Stanislaw Rusinek, Solidarity's representative at Spolem, the Government market and restaurant cooperative, will meet Mr Zygmunt Lacombe, the Internal Trade Minister tomorrow to discuss the issue, the spokesman added.

In other resolutions adopted during a three-day meeting of the union's national coordinating committee, which ended in Gdansk today, Solidarity called for a halt to new wage demands by its local and indus-

try branches until the end of the year.

But wage demands have not been a key issue during recent strikes as workers strive for improved benefits, better working conditions or more say in how their work places are managed.

The issue of worker self-management set off at least one protest. Employees of Lot, the national airline, threatened to strike last Friday over the Government's selection of their elected candidate for the post of director. The dispute was resolved by an apparent compromise.

Solidarity said today, however, that it did not believe a Government programme of worker self-management was authentic. A union spokesman added that Solidarity felt such a concept could only work if self-management bodies or factories were independent of union and Government control.

"It should be completely independent and not steered by any organization in the factories," the spokesman said.

Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, is suffering from extreme exhaustion and announced today that he intended to take a week's rest. He told reporters of his intention at a news conference in Gdansk.

Sources close to Mr Walesa said that he had been advised by doctors to spend several days in bed, although the sources added, there was no immediate question of his going into hospital.

Meanwhile, Western observers here said that last week's floods in western Polish farmland did not appear to threaten this year's harvest.

—AP and AFP.

Walesa's reply to Premier

Strike weapon essential, Solidarity leader says

From Denis Taylor, Gdansk, July 26

Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, said in an interview here last night that the Polish independent trade union organisation must have the strike weapon. "I personally and the union would not want to use it, but we can't be without it," he said.

He was commenting on the speech by General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, at the recent extraordinary ninth Communist Party congress. General Jaruzelski strongly criticized strikes and gave a warning that there were limits to what the government was prepared to tolerate.

The authorities have been blaming the Polish economic crisis on Solidarity, and the independent trade union organisation in turn has argued that the basic cause of Poland's massive problems is mismanagement.

But Mr Walesa said last night that Solidarity and the government should work together to find a way out of the crisis. The movement was talking about solving the crisis "not as trade unionists but as citizens of Poland."

Sudden announcements of severe price increases in the past have caused mass unrest among Polish workers. Mr Walesa pointed out that raising prices was one aim of the Government's new economic programme. "But this is one of the latest stages of the economic reforms, and should be discussed at the end. First, society has to be confident that the programme is acceptable and then price rises can be discussed," he said.

When I asked him if he saw self-management as a source of conflict between Solidarity and the Government, he said: "In the beginning it will be a problem, but I hope we will come to terms. First, we have to organize ourselves and start self-management within plants and the Government will have to start to make changes and to cooperate with us because it (self-management) will be an accomplished fact."

The authorities are nervous about any extensive self-management in Poland, portraying it as a threat to centralized planning and to fundamental tenets of socialism. Solidarity's argument is that the workers in a particular enterprise should be able to select their own management, and the independent union organisation advocates this new practice as a way to pull the country out of its present formidable, and still deteriorating, economic difficulties.

Mr Walesa spoke fairly optimistically about the ultimate prospects for the economy. "We



Mr Walesa: "Every chance of overcoming the crisis"

have every chance of overcoming the crisis," he said. Asked how he saw the situation in the country 11 months after the strike in the Lenin shipyard here which catapulted him into international fame, he replied: "The situation is even better than we expected, but there is still a long way to go."

On the question of whether he still had thoughts of withdrawing from his present role, as he had sometimes suggested in the past, he said: "I am extremely tired, but nothing will break me down."

Mr Walesa took a moderate line on two of the issues now exercising Solidarity: freedom of choice to join a trade union and censorship. He was not yet worried about Government attempts to restrict independent trade union activity.

On censorship, he said: "We must be responsible... but there should not be censorship of Solidarity at all, and there should not be such strict censorship as now exists in Poland." Asked if he foresaw strikes against censorship, he replied: "In this country everything is possible, but I hope we can find a way out of this problem."

Mr Janusz Onieszkiewicz, a spokesman for Solidarity, yesterday said the union organisation would reject a new censorship Bill which departed too far from "a very hard compromise" between Solidarity and the Government.

Speaking outside the private meeting of the Solidarity national coordinating committee in Gdansk, he said Solidarity demanded that its internal publications should be free from censorship, that everyone should be able to bring a single copy of any book into the country.

Reagan says CIA chief is decent man

From Nicholas Hirst

Washington, July 26—President Reagan, continuing to back Mr William Casey as director of the Central Intelligence Agency, despite calls for his resignation from leading Republicans.

But since Friday, when the first influential votes were heard on Capitol Hill suggesting that Mr Casey should resign, White House officials have acknowledged that there appear to be such deep-rooted objections to his continuing in his post that he might have to go.

His problems are twofold. He suffered the resignation of Mr Max Baucus, his controversial appointee as head of the CIA's covert activities, after allegations of improper business practices and Mr Casey himself is the subject of court proceedings over his own business dealings.

Mr David Gergen, a spokesman for the White House, said yesterday that "the President believes Mr Casey is a good and decent man who has served his country well. He also believes that Mr Casey is doing a fine job at the CIA. In the light of that background the President is standing firmly behind Mr Casey."

Mr Casey's position was further imperilled when Senator Barry Goldwater, the chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said the mistake in appointing Mr Baucus was sufficient either for Mr Casey to resign or for the President to ask him to do so.

But Mr Casey's friends have been rallying round. Senator Paul Laxalt, of Nevada, has publicly expressed his support. Mr Timothy Wirth, CIA general counsel and former enforcement chief of the Securities Exchange Commission, and Mr Leonard Marks, the former director of the United States Information Service, have praised Mr Casey's character.

White House officials say that objections of various members of the Senate Intelligence Committee are of a "personal" nature.

Should he resign the blow to the political standing of Mr Reagan would be considerable.

FBI finds no evidence of assassination plot

Washington, July 26—Investigation has found no evidence of a conspiracy behind the attempted assassination of President Reagan in March, Mr William Webster, FBI director, said today.

Mr Webster said the FBI had given the Justice Department a four-month report after the shooting in which the President and three others were wounded.

A federal grand jury is studying the report and will decide in a few days whether it has enough evidence formally to charge the assassin, John Hinckley, with the shooting.

Mr Hinckley, the 25-year-old son of a wealthy oil company executive, has been under close guard at a prison in North Carolina. He has been having extensive psychiatric tests by government psychiatrists.

Mr Webster said the FBI investigation included inquiries into Mr Hinckley's movements before the shooting.

"While you cannot ever eliminate the possibility that there were other people who knew about the defendant's plans or aided them in some way, we have no such evidence involving other persons, willing or unwilling," Mr Webster said in an interview.

"We have evidence with respect to motivation which does not support a conspiratorial theory," he said.

The FBI chief declined to

TV appeal by President on tax cuts plan

From Frank Vogt, U.S. Economics Correspondent

Washington, July 26—President Reagan will appeal for public support tomorrow night in a television address for his plan to make numerous cuts in taxation, including one of 25 per cent over the next 33 months in individual income taxes.

For months now it has been clear that the majority of Democratic Party members of Congress oppose the White House tax plan, but now the battle between the Republicans and the Democrats is moving towards a climax. Mr Reagan is using every tool of presidential power in this, his biggest contest so far with the Democrats, who hold the majority of the votes in the House of Representatives.

Complex alternative tax Bills are now being weighed on Capitol Hill. The Senate has been debating more than 100 separate amendments to its tax Bill for the last nine days. But no aspect of the Bills is more important and controversial than that concerned with individual tax cuts.

The White House asserts that the tax Bill must be out of Congress and ready for the President to sign into law before Congress goes into recess in early August.

This is seen as necessary to ensure that the Internal Revenue Service has sufficient time to change tax tables so that individual income tax cuts go into effect by October 1, and so provide the economy with sufficient stimulus this year to lift it out of the current recession.

The administrative tasks alone are huge to rush a Bill as complicated as the current tax measure through the Congress on time. An essential first requirement is swift action on the floor of the House of Representatives, and the debate on the floor will start this week.

The Democrats will propose their own Bill, but President Reagan wants to offer a Republican alternative and he is striving, as he did earlier on public spending legislation, to win conservative Democrats to his side.

His task is more difficult than it was on the spending Bill, as many conservative Democrats feel uncomfortable about any tax cuts at this time, as they view such cuts as adding to the United States budget deficit.

To soften opposition among conservative Democrats the President has agreed in the last few days to make all sorts of compromises. He has agreed to oil company tax cuts, which go well with many of the Democrats' southern oil-producing states.

The President will follow up tomorrow night's speech with what the White House is claiming will be a major luncheon address in Atlanta, Georgia, on Wednesday. The White House said it was spending \$500,000 (\$250,000 on radio advertising).

Many Democrats feel that tax cuts provide too many benefits for the rich and not enough for middle- and lower-income earners. The Democrats will propose a Bill this week that calls for just 15 per cent tax cuts for two years that are heavily slanted towards lower income earners.

This Bill contains a clause allowing tax cuts in a third year only if the economy by 1983 is as healthy as the White House now forecasting.

President Reagan wants a 5 per cent income tax cut in October, then a 10 per cent cut next July and a further 10 per cent cut in July 1983. He claims that due to inflation and rising wages, workers will on average rise anyway by 22 per cent over the next three years.

He claims that the Democrats' plan of just a 15 per cent cut really means that all Americans are going to see their tax bills rise.

Then the President asserts that the trigger approach of the Democrats, as far as the third year of income tax cuts is concerned, amounts to "holding the nation's economic future to ransom."



Members of the Women's March for Peace enact a mock air-raid in Brussels, with the group sprawled out as if dead.

Hard going for Begin in coalition negotiations

From Moshe Brilliant

Tel Aviv, July 26—With the Lebanese situation calmer and Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special envoy, back in Washington, the Israeli Cabinet's weekly meeting in Jerusalem was cancelled today to allow more time for coalition talks.

It is, however, proving unexpectedly difficult to get agreement for a coalition government.

Mr Menachem Begin, Prime Minister, wants to be able to present his new Government to Parliament on Thursday. A committee of his exasperated Likud colleagues said they would support a National Religious Party delegation, which had put forward a 120-item list of social, economic, educational, religious and other demands.

The talks were adjourned until tomorrow and Dr Josef Burg, the National Religious Party leader, said Mr Begin's goal of presenting his new Government on Thursday was unrealistic.

A spokesman from the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel party said today his group had agreed on its negotiations with Mr Begin, but the deal would require the approval of the venerable Council of Torah Sages which would meet on Wednesday.

The Tami Party said its ideological demands had already been met, but there were personal problems to be settled this week in a meeting between Mr Begin and Mr Abbaon Abuhazera, the Minister for Religious Affairs in the outgoing Government.

A Tami source said Mr Abuhazera was no longer insisting on retaining the religious affairs portfolio in the new government, but the party objected to the post going to Dr Burg.

Mr Abuhazera was given the "office" in the last administration as a deputy of the National Religious Party, but before the election he formed an ethnic group representing North African immigrants.

The source said it was feared Dr Burg might, as accounts with Mr Abuhazera's supporters if he took over the ministry.

The Prime Minister is said to be in a hurry to resolve the issue and form a new Government because he is due to hold important talks with President Sadat of Egypt in Alexandria next month, and with President Reagan in Washington early in September.

Mr Begin would like to meet them as leader of a Government representing a parliamentary majority, rather than as a caretaker Prime Minister.

Mr Begin's 21-day mandate from President Navon expires on August 5, but he is entitled to seek another 21-day extension. However, he has said he would not ask for an extension if he failed to form a government by the first deadline.

In that case, Mr Navon might offer the mandate to Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, who would thus be trying to form a new government in Jerusalem, while Mr Begin represented his country in Egypt and the United States.

Participants in the current coalition talks have predicted an agreement will be concluded by next week.

Lebanon ceasefire said to cover Christian-held area

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, July 26

Mr Yassir Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), and Mr Ephraim Euron, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, both said today that the area controlled by Christian militia forces in Lebanon was included within the ceasefire agreement announced on Friday.

It is this area, straddling the Lebanese-Israeli border, which has seen most of the sporadic shelling since the ceasefire started. As it is controlled by militia not directly under Israeli command it is the most likely flashpoint for violence.

It had been thought that violence in this area might be considered outside the terms of the ceasefire which referred to a cessation of hostilities across the Lebanese border.

Mr Arafat said today on American television that he had insisted on three conditions in agreeing with the United Nations representatives to a ceasefire.

These were that all raids had to be stopped against Palestinian and Lebanese civilians, that raids by the Christian militia had to stop, and that the militia must not attack United Nations peacekeeping forces.

Interviewed on another American television programme, the Israeli Ambassador said there could be no dispute the area was included within the ceasefire. Israel would hold the Lebanese Government responsible for any violation of the ceasefire. "If the agreement is

IN BRIEF

British warship in collision

The British guided missile destroyer Glasgow was involved in a minor collision with a Soviet cruiser Admiral Isakov while operating in the Barents Sea in May, it was disclosed yesterday.

The British Ambassador in Moscow has made representations to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, but the diplomatic action is described as "not a protest". The Glasgow's captain reported that the Soviet ship was manoeuvring dangerously.

Clowns shot

San Salvador.—The bullet-riddled bodies of 10 men, including two dressed as clowns, were found in a swimming pool in Cotepeque, 32 miles west of here. At least 21 people died in a battle between troops and leftist guerrillas near San Vicente.

Colonels escape

Maputo.—Mozambique's Ministry of Security said that two lieutenant-colonels detained for espionage—one of them a member of the Frelimo central committee—had escaped from custody.

Indian floods

Delhi.—Flooding in Uttar Pradesh worsened as vast areas were covered by river waters after renewed rain. About six million people in the state were believed to be affected, and the national death toll from floods could surpass 1,500.

Dylan death

Avignon.—A 17-year-old Italian girl died yesterday when she fell more than 15ft from a grandstand at Bob Dylan's final European concert. A Dutch spectator, who was injured when he touched an electric line climbing a pylon.

Turk released

Ankara.—Turkish authorities have released from custody Mr Necmettin Erbakan, the Muslim fundamentalist leader of the National Salvation Party, on trial for trying to establish an Islamic-based state.

Red hot

Moscow.—The heatwave that has hit the Soviet Union, causing pear and forest fires and damaging crops, will continue into next month, Pravda said.

Swiss disaster

Aldorf.—A week of heavy rain was blamed for the Swiss landslide which killed six hikers and guides on a mountain camping expedition.

Danish strike

Copenhagen.—Prospects of an end to the journalists' strike over pay, which has disrupted the Danish press for months, faded when talks between their union and publishers were broken off.

Heart transplant

Houston, Texas.—Doctors here transplanted a human heart into the chest of a 36-year-old Dutchman kept alive for three days with a mechanical heart, and said his "physiological status is good."

Soviet charge

Moscow.—Admiral Sergei Gorshkov, commander of the Soviet Navy, claimed in Pravda that the United States Navy, used increasingly as a "police force", poses a threat to other countries, while the Russian fleet is strictly defensive.

Flights hit

Madrid.—Working-to-rule by pilots of the Spanish national airline Iberia delayed domestic and international flights as the pay dispute went into its second day.

Troops to remain in Belize

By David Spanier

Diplomatic Correspondent

British troops will remain in Belize after independence "for an appropriate period," it was announced yesterday. The date of independence has been set for September 21.

The present garrison is about 1,600 strong. After the failure to reach agreement with Guatemala on its territorial claims, though the negotiations are seen as providing a basis for future cooperation, Britain accepts responsibility for bringing Belize to "secure independence."

The future size of the garrison and the time it remains will be under continuous review, it was stated in London yesterday, the implication being that, if Guatemala took a friendly line towards the new state, the troops would in due course be withdrawn.

It was also agreed in talks last week between Mr George Price, Premier of Belize, and Mr Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, that certain countries in the region would be invited to participate in arrangements with Britain, designed to repel or deter any attack. The countries are likely to include the United States, Canada and Commonwealth Caribbean countries.

At the same time Britain is to provide military training and assistance to Belize to help in the development and growth of the Belize Defence Force.

Participants in the current coalition talks have predicted an agreement will be concluded by next week.

Israel-Iran arms puzzle Britain asks Moscow for details of plane crash

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The British embassy in Moscow has asked the Soviet authorities for confirmation of reports that a British was on board the Argentine cargo aircraft which crashed in mysterious circumstances just inside the Russian border with Turkey and Iran last week. Britain has requested full details of the accident.

According to The Sunday Times, a 38-year-old Scot, Mr Stuart Allan McCafferty, was on the aircraft, engaged in running arms supplies from Tel Aviv to Iran. He is presumed to have died in the crash.

The deal, said to have been negotiated in London, was to supply Iran with 30 tons of tank spares and ammunition, needed in the war with Iraq, the newspaper reported. The arms were delivered to Tehran via Larnaca, Cyprus, where it is suggested the Russians learned of what was going on, and intercepted the aircraft.

The Sunday Times quotes a partner of Mr McCafferty as rejecting an Israeli denial of earlier trips, claiming they were made three times in July. The contract, said to be between Iranian and Israeli connections, was worth £15m.

Iran last night dismissed as a lie and fairy tale reports that the aircraft had carried military equipment from Israel to Iran (Reuters reports).

Quoting a statement from the Foreign Ministry, Iranian state radio described the incident as "yet another plot against our revolution, with the collusion of the eastern pole of global oppression."

Nicosia: Cyprus Government

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EXCLUSIVE

Mr. PIETRI, General Manager of the CONSTRUCTA Company (estate agency) will be pleased to show you «Les Hameaux de Valcros». He will be in London at the Mount Royal Hotel, Bryanston street (Tel. 629.80.40) this Monday afternoon of July 27th, to-morrow and the day after to-morrow morning.

Batting from Memory, 1; By Jack Fingleton



Jack Fingleton is a journalist who became a first-class cricketer, and who then combined both roles to become one of the game's outstanding writers and commentators — while continuing a separate career as a political correspondent. These extracts are from his latest book, *Batting from Memory*, published by Collins on Oct 8 at £8.95

My cricketing life from bodyline to Brearley

I could never quite believe that it was all happening to me. Like all boys in the Depression years I worshipped my heroes and dreamed my dreams, but knew that as a son of a Sydney tram driver who had died early, the only possible future was work — if I could get it.

If someone had said to me then, when I was twelve years old, "Fingleton, you'll grow up to work for some of the world's greatest newspapers", I'd have been terrified. If someone had gone on to say, "There will be a season in which you'll top the averages of the Australian eleven", I'd have thought he'd strayed a little close to the flag; but if someone had said, "You'll be a trusted friend of prime ministers", then I would have known the person speaking to me was going round the bend.

Even in my youth they used to say it's not what you know but who you know that counts. I knew nobody, so my expectations weren't high. Maybe it was a matter of reflexes — of grabbing opportunities on those rare occasions when I happened to be in the right place at the right time.

Fascinating celebrities

I became a journalist because I started at the bottom and was prepared to put up with anything in order to stay in there and wait for a handhold on the next rung. I became a first-class cricketer because I worked at it tirelessly. I coped with some success, against bodyline, perhaps because I was too stupid to get out of the way. It wasn't until I'd finished, though, that I realized how I could have been much better.

But all this time things kept happening — people, now legendary, crossed my path; my cricket heroes became my teammates; cricket and journalism took me round the world and into the company of fascinating celebrities. So to say that I have been more than fortunate in the people I have met and the many friends I have made in the cricket and newspaper worlds would not be an exaggeration. So many have helped and trusted me.

One of the best home-spun philosophers I've met in my life was Ben Chifley, once Prime Minister of Australia. The press gallery in Canberra looked forward avidly to Chifley's press conferences; they were animated by his droll sense of humour. On one occasion I remember him saying to us, "You haven't got to be a bloody genius to succeed in life. All you have to do is use the bloody brains God has given you."

I had an extremely modest upbringing in Waverley, a Sydney suburb. My father's early death left a wonderful mother with six young children to rear and educate. We were often pushed for food. All of us would troop home for lunch from school and it was an event when one of us was given a shilling and sent to Charlie the Chinaman, on the corner of Cowper Street, as it then was, for some mixed fruit.

There was no spare money for

us to buy extras at school. I remember borrowing a shilling from a fellow pupil, Len McWilliam, to buy a textbook. I had no idea how I would repay it and when Len naturally pushed me for his "advance" I was terrified. I didn't know how I would pay and even had visions of prison. I put the case to my mother; the shilling was forthcoming and all was well.

It would be difficult to say who the greatest influences in my life have been; so many have been involved. But my first real break was due entirely to my jovial cousin, Jack O'Brien, who arranged a job for me on the newly started *Sydney Daily Guardian*, where he worked as a compositor. I was really a glorified office-boy but attached myself to A. E. B. ("Pedlar") Palmer, on the sports desk. When Mr Palmer found I was reliable he gave me more scope and I even had the power to engage casuals at 30 shillings a day to cover various events. Thus I was able to put some money in the way of my cricket club friends, Frank Conway and Jimmy Holm, victims of the Depression. They would bring in details of what they covered and I would knock it into shape.

So I spent some happy years at the *Guardian*, serving my cadetship there; and when Pedlar Palmer moved on I moved too, to the *Telegraph Pictorial*, where I was made a graded journalist. The *Pictorial* merged with the *Daily Telegraph*. That was a time of drastic change in Sydney's newspapers but all the time I was able to play cricket during the week with our newspaper teams. We went to work on the morning papers at 2 pm and worked until about midnight, so we had mornings free for surfing, tennis, golf or cricket. I spent many of them in the company of Jack O'Brien, who was a very capable all-round sportsman. My only worry was whether the night work would

damage my eyesight, but I have been lucky in that.

It was while working in the *Guardian* that I first came across file copies of the *Manchester Guardian* and from then on I was an avid reader of "Cricketer" — Neville Cardus. Eventually I plucked up courage to write to him; that was the beginning of a correspondence and friendship which lasted until his death in 1975. He is the cricket writer I have most admired and he it was who always gave me the most encouragement in my own cricket writing.

President Kennedy — fit but doomed

The day came in 1944 when I moved into the press gallery of Parliament House, Canberra, as political correspondent for *Radio Australia*. John Curtin was then Prime Minister. Robert Menzies, the leader of the Opposition. Later, when Sir Robert was Prime Minister, it was no uncommon thing for Oliver Chidgey, one of his personal staff, to come to my room on the Senate side of the House and say, "The boss wants to know whether you are busy?"

Sir Robert was keen on and interested in cricket and, if there was some controversy in the game, he would often want to discuss it. I wasn't slow, as a journalist, to take advantage of these meetings; I could ask him questions on political happenings of the day; and he invariably told me his views, though more as background, not to be used as coming from him. One of his personal staff once told me Sir Robert had said he trusted me over this; he didn't trust many of our ilk, and particularly not journalists.

Politics and cricket seem to mix even in seemingly unlikely parts of the world. One of the places cricket helped me was,

unbelievably, the White House in Washington. I had flown from New York to Washington after the England trip and met Pierre Salinger, President Kennedy's press secretary, soon after I arrived. Pierre had obviously enquired about me at the Australian embassy. "I know all about cricket," he told me. I expressed surprise. "Yes," said Pierre, "I used to score for a team in Philadelphia."

He said it was a pity I hadn't come sooner: the President was holding a press interview that afternoon and any visitor had to be vetted for 48 hours security. Still, because of our mutual interest in cricket, Pierre said he would try to get the rule waived.

He did the trick. I was admitted but told I could not ask any questions — details of these had to be submitted first so that the President, who pointed out which questioner he would answer, knew what to expect. A woman journalist in a big hat kept sniping at the President but he treated her kindly. He stood on a well-lit podium beneath the words "President of the USA", looking magnificently fit, well-tailored, speaking quickly and musically, needing none of the trappings that seem such a feature of American politics. It was the last television interview he gave.

Politics in Canberra have served me exceedingly well and certainly having played cricket for Australia did me no harm with the politicians. On the day in 1978 when I retired from the press gallery there the Speaker, Sir Billy Snedden, announced the fact to the House from the Chair, drawing attention to my cricket career and wishing me well in semi-retirement on behalf of Parliament.

Members of both sides of the House were kind enough to give a hearty hear-ear: it was the only time in a turbulent day (spent wrangling on privilege) that they showed any una-

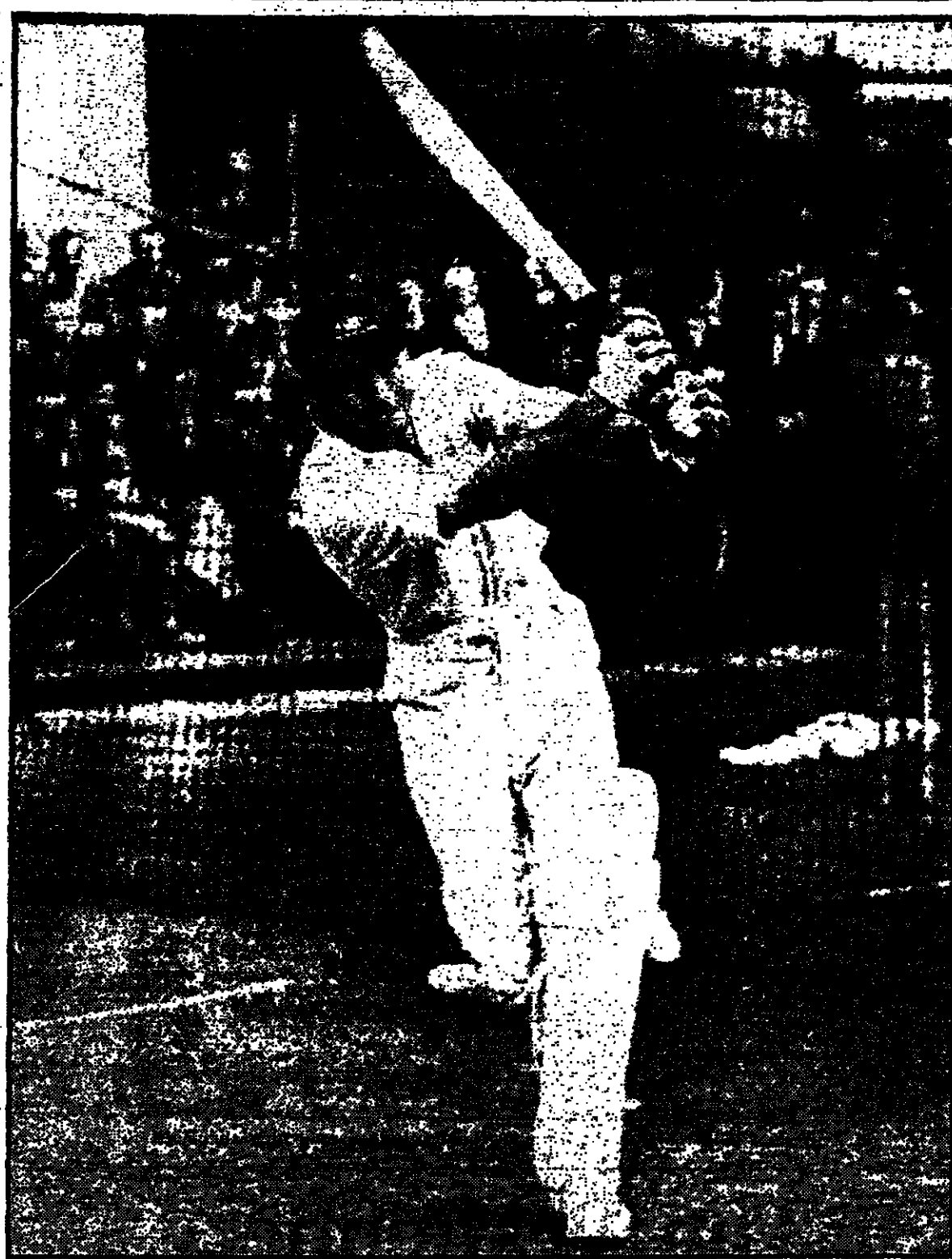
nimity. It was the only time in the history of our Parliament that a press correspondent had been so honoured and favoured. It would have made that twelve-year-old back in Waverley sit up and think.

Waverley Oval was where the young cricketers of our district got early training. The outside park, with its uneven bounce off the turf, and its one decrepit concrete path that yielded bouncers and shooters, was where we learned our defence. It stood us in good stead when we got on to Waverley Oval itself because it rarely knew a good pitch in the middle there in my time.

Looking back, I am sure the fault was that the various curators never gave the square sufficient water in preparation. Thus it was dusty and powdery, with uneven bounce; somewhat like the Old Trafford pitch in 1956 on which Jim Laker got his harvest of nineteen wickets, although it is to be noted that other spinners didn't do much on that. Alan Kippax and I did get fair runs at Waverley but it was, invariably, a struggle; and the pitch, especially when coming to it after one that was first-class, could run one out of form. Bradman, McCabe, Jackson and the brilliant Sydney rest in our day, all played at Waverley, but I never recall one of them playing a big innings.

A bad habit for big games

The ground, the district club and the district were full of cricket activity. We had a long string of internationals from the early Gregorys, Carter, Kippax and Hendry, the late Jack Gregory and Arthur Mailey in addition to myself, in the thirties. I don't think anybody would claim Tony Greg or Geoff Boycott as "home" internationals, although both played with Waverley when money and



Jack Fingleton: batting at his best



Fingleton in 1932: low expectations but good reflexes

its attractions were coming into the game.

Every Saturday when we had a home match at Waverley my path from home in Porter Street would lead me across the top of the Waverley reservoir before descending the many concrete steps to the bottom; and on top one had the most glorious panoramic view. Sailing craft dotted the harbour, white beaches stretched endlessly, and by the time I got to the top the big liners that had left at noon for England would be standing well out to sea, coming down the coast with funnels belching. One could visualize the thrilled passengers unpacking in their cabins.

Planes to England are all very well for their quickness, and I have flown there thirteen times, by every possible route. But give me a ship every time, to Tilbury or Southampton, with its atmosphere, enjoyment and languid days in the sun and the entrancing evenings of dance and moonlight when the big liner would gently glide on the placid waters.

The most enjoyable thrill in a cricketer's life went overboard when the big jumbo jets took over from ships. Imagine a fancy dress ball on a plane! A team, arriving bearded and unkempt and much the worse for being all night on a plane, has no chance of knitting together in that one night.

I learned one bad habit at Waverley which handicapped me in big games when I batted on pitches that could be trusted. Because of the uncertainties of the Waverley pitch, I allowed my bottom hand to slip down the handle, the better for defence and to counter shooters. Joe Hardstaff of Nottingham was one who I thought held his bat too high on the handle, not having complete control over it; but to let the two hands get apart on the bat handle is one of the worst mistakes in batting.

Mike Brearley has done it all his cricketing life, in addition to not keeping his head and body still as the ball is coming to him, although Derek Randall is the greatest offender I have seen in not keeping his body still. Brearley is a very sensible fellow and I am amazed that he has not worked this out for himself, though admittedly there was much I learned about batting after I had finished with the game. In short, having the hands apart on the handle means they perform different swinging arcs, one pulling against the other. They must begin together, though it is permissible to shift the lower one down for different shots.

One other important point I learned after I had finished playing, and that through golf: it is the importance of the top hand. This is the dominant hand for the drive, which is much freer when the top hand is in control. I should have worked this out for myself.

Kippax, Bradman and McCabe were there constantly in the middle or at the nets to watch and I could have studied and copied any of them. They all played the drive perfectly and, when it is examined, it is the easiest of strokes. All one has to do is judge the ball correctly, putting the left front foot adjacent to the line of flight, swing through with the top hand dominant and the drive is Bob's your uncle, so to speak.

There is one further important aspect. The front foot, as Herbie Taylor, the Springbok theorist, insisted, points side on, not pointing the toe up the pitch. This latter stance turns the shoulder, and the swing in consequence is not to and through the ball. It also throws the weight of the body back and away from the ball of the front foot, where it should be.

Batting, a side-on science

These are simple rules but they are all-important in the drive, and no first-class batsman ever lived who wasn't proficient in the drive. It is the most paying of strokes and the least dangerous, as the full face of the bat is always looking at the ball. It was Don Bradman's best-paying stroke, I suggest, because no bowler likes to be driven and it is then that he drops short.

Batting is a side-on science but when I stress that the hands should act as one in driving, that doesn't mean that the bottom hand should not be moved down for defence, the hook, the pull and the square-cut. Syd Barnes, of Sydney, was the best square-cutter I knew and it was his bottom hand that did most of the work. When he was made into an opener he forsook most of his strokes in front of the wicket and became very much a back-foot player. That is what opening can do to a batsman.

Cricket people talk of coaches as if they are indispensable as if a boy cannot learn about cricket unless he is coached. That is absolute piffle. The first thing to be developed in a boy is ball sense and this can't begin too young.

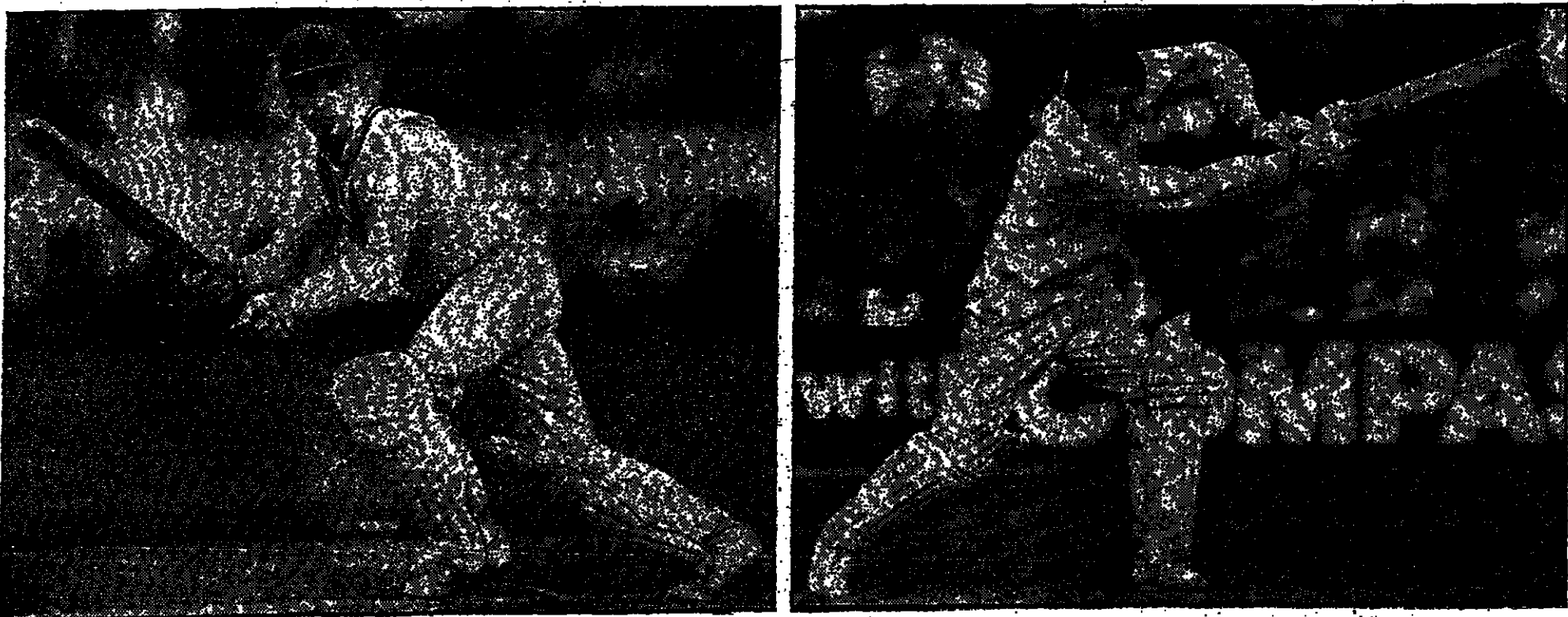
I took my two-year-old grandson, Forbes, out on the tennis court one day and began by getting him to hold his two hands together and then plopped a tennis ball into them. He thought it was a game and tried to hit me with the ball but this is the age to begin to teach ball sense.

'Safe' thinking held one back

If a young chap is keen enough on cricket, he will work many things out for himself, but he will be fortunate if he has an elder who can put him on the right lines. What I lacked as a youngster was somebody to explain what was wrong with my grip and tell me, "You are missing a lot in this game. You have to think positively. You can play all the strokes but you are afraid to let yourself go." And that was true. I had a depressed, "safety first" mentality.

The only virtue I see in one-day cricket lies in that it demands that a batsman play his shots, and many a batsman can play better than he thinks or tries. But it is also imperative that a youngster gets advice from somebody who knows what he is talking about. I had coached my youngest son, Larry, from a toddler and he was faultless, as I saw it, in all he did. A well-known coach from Sydney came to Canberra once and the first thing he tried to do with Larry was to change his stance and grip!

Tomorrow: The amazing Bradman



Mike Brearley (left) and Derek Randall . . . showing how not to hold a bat

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Next month is the sixty-ninth anniversary of the birth of Raoul Wallenberg, Swedish aristocrat, diplomat and war hero who saved the lives of thousands of Jews in Nazi-occupied Hungary. It may also be his birthday. For Wallenberg, though reported by the Russians to have died in a Moscow prison cell in 1947, has been frequently reported since as alive and still imprisoned in more than a dozen Soviet hospitals and camps. Andrei Sakharov has said that all mankind is in his debt, and last month he was made an honorary American citizen. Judith Listowel reports.

The Swedish Government was acting at the request of the American War Refugee Board and the World Jewish Congress when it appointed Wallenberg first secretary of its legation in Budapest in July 1944 with instructions to save as many Jews as possible from the Nazi death camps.

With almost unlimited American funds, he proved astonishingly successful. Four thousand Jews were given sanctuary in 38 houses which he bought and which flew the Swedish flag. Eight thousand Jewish children were housed in special shelters; and about 20,000 received Swedish passports, declaring them to be honorary Swedish citizens.

In December 1944, when intelligent Germans knew the war was lost, Wallenberg induced the German general in command of Budapest to spare the Jewish ghetto, where 70,000 Jews were to have been massacred.

In Hungary Raoul Wallenberg is a legendary figure, to whose courage, shrewdness and diplomacy perhaps as many as 100,000 Jews owed their lives. The Jewish wife of Hungary's fascist Foreign Minister, Baron Gabor Kemény, was his mistress, and she obtained permits and signatures for him which even the Gestapo respected. (Elizabeth Kemény is still alive in Munich; Gabor Kemény was hanged in 1945 as a war criminal).

Adolf Eichmann, given the task of destroying all Hungarian Jews, was incensed by Wallenberg's activities. In December, 1944, Wallenberg's car was rammed and wrecked. Fortunately he was not in it. But Eichmann said: "We will try again." (One wonders why Wallenberg was not even mentioned during the Eichmann trial in Israel).

On January 10, 1945 the personnel of the Swedish Legation moved from the Pest side to the Buda Hills, where life was safer. Wallenberg refused to go with his colleagues; instead he went to 16 Benczur Street, a house under the protection of the International Red Cross where 25 prominent Jews had found refuge.

Steven Radi, now a New York businessman, recalls his arrival: "Raoul looked pale, thin and exhausted. He said the Nazis were looking for him. He was of medium height, dark, his hair thinning. He had a very soft voice, but when he spoke people listened. On January 15 the Russians came up through the basement. They looked at our papers. The soldier who looked at Wallenberg's called a higher officer, who asked Wallenberg to go with him to headquarters. Raoul left without taking any of his personal effects. We thought he would be back in a couple of hours. He seemed all right and in good spirits and said he had to go to Debrecen, where the Russians had set up a provisional Hungarian government."

Charles Wilhelm, now a lawyer in Brussels, spoke to Wallenberg just before he left. Wallenberg told him he wanted to talk to the Soviet commander, Marshal Malinowsky, about set-

ting up a relief and rehabilitation organization, searching for lost families, and caring for orphans and war victims; but he was not sure if he was "the guest or the prisoner of the Russians".

Wallenberg, driven by Vilmos Langfelder, a Jewish engineer whose life he had saved, went to his office in the Tatra utca where he told an assistant he would be away for a week and handed him a large sum of money to keep the relief operation going. He also stopped at the Swedish hospital. The two Russian officers, wearing the red tabs of the NKVD security police, drove on motor cycles right and left of Wallenberg's large blue car.

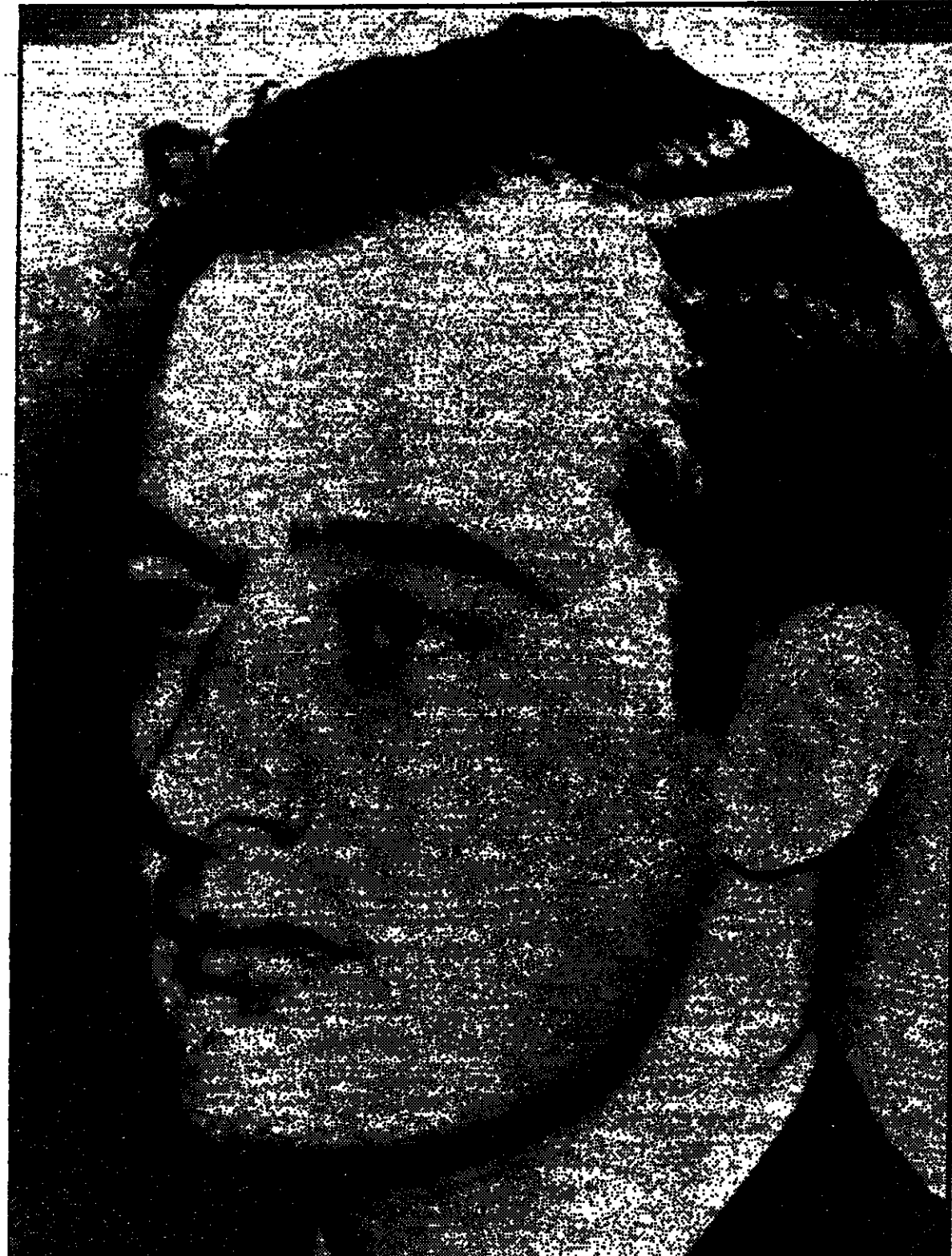
Wallenberg never arrived at Debrecen. Since January 17, 1945, he has not been seen in the West, nor has anyone received a word written in his own hand. He and Vilmos Langfelder simply vanished. Yet the previous day, the Soviet Foreign Ministry told the Swedish Legation in Moscow: "Measures have been taken to protect Mr Raoul Wallenberg and his belongings."

An interview with Stalin

A few days later the Russians herded the other members of the Swedish Legation in Budapest into an internment camp where, contrary to diplomatic rules, the NKVD questioned them for days, mostly about Wallenberg, his work, his funds and his American connections.

In Stockholm the following month the Soviet Minister to Sweden, Alexander Kollontay, invited the wife of the Foreign Minister, Christopher Günther, to meet and told her not to worry about "young Raoul" (he was 32); he was in good health and in a safe place. A few days later Madame Kollontay assured Wallenberg's mother that her son would soon be with her. Yet a week later the Soviet-controlled Kossuth Radio broadcast from Debrecen that on his way there he had been shot by the Gestapo.

In April, 1945, Averell Harriman, the American Ambassador to Moscow, on instructions from the Secretary of State, Edward R. Stettinius, offered the Swedish Minister, Staffan Soderblom, help in the search for Wallenberg, as he had been sent to Budapest at the request of the American War Refugee Board. Soderblom refused the offer, saying the Russians were doing everything possible. The weeks passed. Summer came, then autumn, and still there was no sign of Wallenberg. Madame Kollontay refused to answer further questions. On November 3, 1945, the Swedish Government sent its first official Note through its Moscow Legation to the Soviet Foreign Ministry, demanding to know what had been done "to find and to protect" Wallenberg. Mr Soderblom also tackled the Soviet Vice-Foreign Minister, Dekanazov, who promised to find the military unit that had taken Wallenberg "under its



RAOUL WALLENBERG: the Russians found his idealism incomprehensible.

The Wallenberg mystery

protection". Any information which Dekanazov obtained was never passed on.

In June 1946 Soderblom obtained a rare interview for an ambassador with Stalin. In his report (the Swedish Government recently published the documents relating to the case) Soderblom said Stalin received him cordially and listened sympathetically. Soderblom told him, hoping to make things easier for Stalin: "I personally believe that Wallenberg was the victim of an accident or of robbers in Budapest."

Stalin wrote Wallenberg's name on a piece of paper and promised to look into the matter. (It now seems that this was artifice, that Stalin knew full well that Wallenberg was in the hands of Abakumov, head of the NKVD, and his direct subordinate.)

On July 6 1946 the Wallenberg family was informed that a Hungarian policeman, freed in May 1945 from the Foscini camp in Bessarabia, had there met Wallenberg, who was in transit to a Russian prison. The Swedish authorities contacted the Foscini prison authorities, who replied that no Swede had passed through the camp.

The Swedish Foreign Ministry continued to send Notes asking for information about Wallenberg until, on August 18, 1947, it received the following official reply from the Deputy Foreign Minister, Andrei Vyshinsky: "In spite of active researches at the Army Chiefs of Staff Office, at the Military Police and the Security Services headquarters, the competent Soviet authorities have been unable to find any trace of this person, who was never arrested in the USSR, nor in any area under Soviet control." This was to be the Soviet stance for 10 years.

Meanwhile in Sweden a Raoul Wallenberg Committee was formed; one of its moving

spirits was a Hungarian refugee, Rudolph Philip, who collected one million Swedish signatures for a petition to Stalin calling for Wallenberg's release. On July 15, 1947, it was handed to the Soviet Ambassador to Stockholm. Questions were asked in the Swedish Parliament; articles appeared in the press, and a distinguished group of scientists, backed by Albert Einstein and Martin Buber, proposed Wallenberg for the Nobel Prize.

The issue slowly fell from public attention until February 1952, where the staff of the Italian embassy in Bulgaria, captured by the Russians and only recently released, gave a reception in Rome. Claudio de Mohr, the press attaché, told a journalist: "In the Lefortovo Prison the Russians held not only Axis diplomats, there was also a Swedish diplomat who had done a lot of humanitarian work in Budapest. A man called Raoul Wallenberg."

The remark raised two lines in an Italian newspaper, but headlines in Sweden. Two Swedish diplomats were sent to Rome to question de Mohr, who told them that in September 1944 he had been placed in Lefortovo prison's cell 152. He managed to make wall tapping contact with the inmates of both cells 153 and cell 151. In April 1945 new prisoners arrived. A few days later de Mohr heard gentle tapping: the neighbour in cell 151 was telling him by Morse, in German: how the Russians kidnapped him in Budapest on January 17, 1945; and where he had been taken subsequently. De Mohr also related that until the beginning of 1949, when Wallenberg was moved to another prison, he was frequently interrogated about alleged spying but was never actually charged.

With de Mohr as a witness, the Swedes had the chance to

make a strong stand, especially as they held four Soviet spies whom the Russians wanted back. When the Swedish chargé d'affaires in Moscow raised the matter, the Russians told him they were interested in "certain people in Sweden". But the Swedish Foreign Minister, Bo Osten Unden, decided that Sweden could not risk "unpleasantness with Russia and handed back the spies without asking for Wallenberg in exchange."

In his memoirs Carl-Fredrick Palmstierna, who had been personal secretary to King Gustav Adolf, has described what happened when, on the King's instructions, he asked Dag Hammarskjöld, the United Nations Secretary-General, to intervene. "He answered in a stream of crystal-clear phrases that the fact that he himself was a Swede made it doubly difficult for him to put the case of a compatriot to the Russians." Hammarskjöld did nothing.

I know nothing about this person

Between 1952 and 1956 the Swedish Foreign Ministry, Germans, Finns, French, Swiss and Austrians who had been prisoners of the Russians and had either met, communicated with or heard about Wallenberg, especially in the prison of the city of Vladimir.

In Bonn on January 21, 1956, Claudio de Mohr (then cultural attaché of the Italian Embassy) gave the Swedish Ambassador a long written statement about Wallenberg. On the strength of it two months later, the Prime Minister, Tage Erlander, went to Moscow for a week with a strong delegation. During the negotiations with Khrushchev Erlander brought up Raoul Wallenberg. Khrushchev turned red in the face and shouted



Threatened Jews besiege the legation in Budapest in 1944.

furiously: "I don't want to hear that name again! I know nothing about this person, and I do not want to know anything about him. If you mention him again, I will break off our negotiations."

The Swedes left it at that — except for sending two more Notes, on September 27 and November 17, 1956. At last, on February 6, 1957, came a statement from the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko: "Yes, Wallenberg had been imprisoned in Moscow. A search of the prison archives had resulted in the finding of a single document, a handwritten report dated July 1947, from the medical head of the Ljubljanka prison, A. L. Smoltskov, to the Minister for the Security Services, Abakumov: I report that the prisoner Wallenberg (sic) who is known to you, died suddenly in his cell last night, probably following a myocardial infarction." From this, Gromyko wrote, the conclusion should be drawn that Wallenberg died in July, 1947. His imprisonment had been the result of "Abakumov's criminal activity. This Abakumov had later been sentenced to death and shot." Gromyko added that apart from Smoltskov's "slip of paper" there was no trace of Wallenberg. That is the line the Soviet authorities still follow.

Four years later, in 1961, there was a sensational development. Professor Nanna Svarts, on a visit to Moscow, took up the Wallenberg case with Professor A. L. Myasnikov, whom she had known for several years. Myasnikov told her that he not only knew Wallenberg — he was his patient, and offered to take her to see him. Professor Svarts told him she ought to obtain the approval of the Swedish Ambassador, which she did. When she went back to Myasnikov, he not only withdrew his offer, but refused to talk to her any more about Wallenberg. On the strength of this evidence, the Swedish Prime Minister, Erlander, wrote to Khrushchev, asking permission to send a Swedish doctor to Moscow to prepare Wallenberg's journey home.

Khrushchev was furious and Myasnikov got into trouble. Before her death in 1965, Professor Svarts met Myasnikov three more times, but on each occasion he insisted that she had misunderstood him because of his poor German (which in fact he spoke perfectly); he did not know Wallenberg and had never heard of him.

In the following 10 years a mass of information reached Sweden from people released from Soviet imprisonment. Some of this material could be classified as hearsay. But in December 1978 a former Polish citizen, Abraham Kalinski, now living in Israel, gave the Swedish Embassy in Tel Aviv a detailed account of Wallenberg's stay in three Soviet prisons in the 1950s. In Vladimir he himself had seen Wallenberg in the prison yard.

In 1975 a Russian Jew, Jan Kaplan, said he had met Wallenberg in the Butyrka prison. Wallenberg seemed healthy and told him he had been im-

prisoned for 30 years. On the basis of the Kaplan account, for the first time in 14 years, the Swedish Government asked Moscow for a new investigation. The reply was the standard one: Wallenberg died in 1947.

The Swedish Foreign Ministry knows that Kaplan succeeded in sending his information about Wallenberg to several contacts in the West. In a letter to her daughter, who lives in Israel, Mrs Kaplan not only confirmed the story but wrote that the secret police had taken her husband away, saying she would never see him again, because he had been involved in "anti-Soviet activities" — meaning his revelations about Wallenberg.

Then suddenly the whole western world began to take an interest in Raoul Wallenberg. In a number of countries Wallenberg committees were formed. The British committee is headed by Greville Janner MP and Winston Churchill MP; the American by Senators Frank Church, Claiborne Pell, Daniel Patrick Moynihan and Rudy Boschwitz. Tom Lantos, a Hungarian Jew whom Wallenberg saved, has become a Congressman for California and, thanks to his efforts, Wallenberg has been made an honorary US citizen — which will enable the American Government to increase its efforts on his behalf.

International Wallenberg hearings were held in Stockholm in January at which witnesses who had met him or had had any contact with him in Soviet prisons (their number is shown on the map) told their stories. In May Nina Lagergren, Wallenberg's half-sister, received a cheque for \$10,000 in Washington from a man he had saved, and a special reception was organized for her at Jeshiva University in New York. Now Wallenberg has been nominated for the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize.

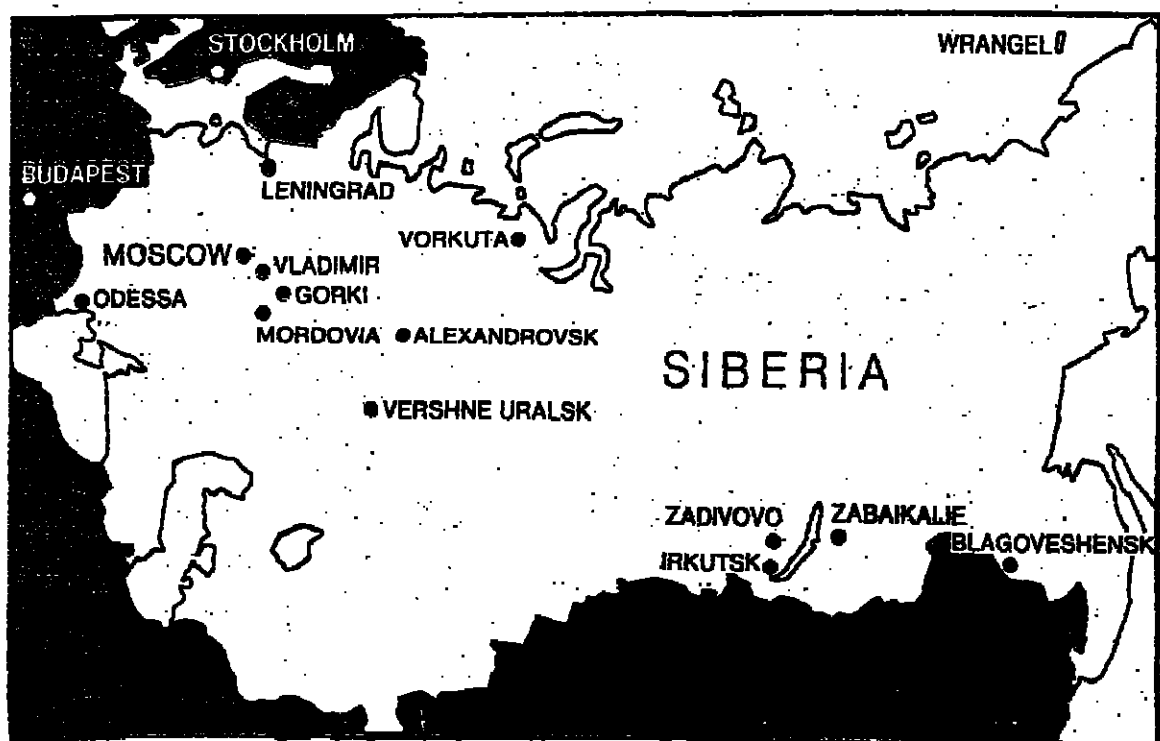
At the security conference in Madrid, which is about to adjourn, Britain has been among the nations putting pressure on Wallenberg's behalf.

The great unanswered, and seemingly unanswerable, question is this: Why have the Russians lied systematically about Raoul Wallenberg for 36 years? Why did they refuse to hand him back after the death of Stalin (and Abakumov), or after Khrushchev's fall, or as part of one of their several amnesties?

Wallenberg's role in Hungary, his pure idealism, was incomprehensible to them and they suspected him of being an American spy, perhaps even a friend of some Nazis. But they must have realized by now that he was none of these things, that he saved Jewish lives from purely humanitarian motives with funds received with the knowledge and blessing of the Swedish Government.

Yet the Russians still cling to their outworn, many times disproved story that Raoul Wallenberg died in 1947 from a heart attack. The evidence produced at the Wallenberg hearings indicates that he was still alive in 1980. After his tragic, ruined life, will he still be alive on August 12, his 69th birthday?

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The prison sightings since 1945

1945: Raoul Wallenberg arrested in Budapest; taken to the Ljubljanka prison, Moscow; shared cell with Gustav Richter, German police attaché in Bucharest; moved to Lefortovo prison; communicated with Claudio de Mohr, by knocking on cell wall. 1946: back to Ljubljanka; interrogation prison in Odessa. 1947: taken to Vladimir prison for political offenders, moved to Chalmers-Tu; according to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, died in Ljubljanka. 1948: in Ljubljanka, according to General Moser. 1949: moved to the Butyrka prison, Moscow where Karl Karämer says that he shared a cell with Wallenberg. 1949-1951: back to Vladimir. 1951-53: Butyrka. Vershne Uralsk prison for political prisoners. Vladimir, where said to be in isolation.

1954-9: moved to Alexandrovsk political prison; Abraham Kalinski, now in Israel, says that he saw Wallenberg several times in the recreation yard. 1962: at Wrangel Island off the Siberian coast according to the Russian Jew Haim Moshibinski. 1964-77: in Butyrka; in Szadivovo near Irkutsk, in Vladimir, in Zabaikalie; back to Butyrka, according to Russian citizen Jan Kaplan, who was arrested after passing this information to a daughter in Israel. 1978: in a special psychiatric hospital in Blagoveshensk near the Chinese border, according to a Russian dissident group. 1979: in prison in Moscow area. 1980: in prison in the Leningrad area. A witness claims to have met Wallenberg in a prison hospital.



Stalin: inquiry promise, but he knew it all along.

THE ARTS

Festival
Wit lurks below
ECO/Steinberg

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Remarkably, since it was written in 1815, it is only this year that sees the centenary of the first performance of Schubert's third symphony. It was a work which the early Victorians would have enjoyed, engaging, and combining the Rossini-like optimism of the finale with the sober Schubertian reflection elsewhere. Given with the unimpaired vigour that the English Chamber Orchestra brought to the Festival of Romanticism performance, it can shine.

It was the first work in an eccentric programme (with the eccentricity late starting time of 8.45) which continued with two widely differing concertos. In the first, Paganini's number one in D, Aaron Rosand gave a masterly display as indeed is required in this showpiece. Paganini helped him, since the orchestra's accompaniment is so sparse that the soloist cannot help but seem on a different plane. However the responsive accompanying of the ECO under Pinchas Steinberg (looking remarkably like Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, but without the latter's wry detachment) brought out all the wit lying not so far beneath the surface.

The lighter side of Paganini gained a great deal from the size of the orchestra, the chamber numbers lending the texture a clarity usually missed by full symphony orchestras. Mr Rosand was fully capable of throwing off the most bizarre of the composer's demands without trouble, though just enough effort was evident for the double stopped harmonics not to seem too easy. It is a work, though, for the exhibition of panache and this he achieved in no small measure.

In Schumann's piano concerto Jerome Rose was the soloist in a performance that was unable to capture the spontaneity of those earlier in the evening. Those moments which were musically interesting, such as the transition between the andantino grazioso and the finale, were the province of the orchestra, though a greater weight than was possible for the soloist was needed in the slow movement. There were times when Mr Rose's passion seemed greater than his control, but little of the result added to the appreciation of Schumann.

Simon Mundy

Opera

Aix-en-Provence Festival

"What kind of fair have I, who perished in July?" The couple from *The Taming of the Shrew* could be engraved on the goose pimples of anyone who goes in search of open-air opera this European summer. Or so it seemed, sitting under the eaves of the Archbishop's Palace in Aix at 1 am with a freezing mistral whistling around the rooftops. It was an unaccustomed perch, to be sure, but an administrative misunderstanding had put us up there and perhaps it is good for a critic's soul, if not for his body temperature, to be up to the gods again from time to time.

On stage Tancredi, the warrior hero of Rossini's first opera, was perishing too on the edge of the hardfield. Behind him the blue and gold dropcloth, was inflated by that same mistral so that it took on the shape of Rossini's own stomach in middle age. He needed strong arms to keep the banners of the Syracuse army from flying off into the night. But after nearly four hours of music the audience was intact, totally involved and finally hugely enthusiastic.

For that the credit must go primarily to Marilyn Horne, who has been championing Rossini for almost 20 years now, as Tancredi the Norman knight who comes to save Syracuse from the Saracens, and Katia Ricciarelli as Ameneide, the local girl he never manages to marry.

Tancredi has the reputation of being a "difficult" opera, although there are plenty of signs that it is coming back into fashion, including a couple of recent recordings. Neither of the latter is of great merit, so after the success of this Aix first night someone should surely be preparing another

John Higgins enjoys a cold evening of Rossini's 'Tancredi'

version with Horne and Ricciarelli at the helm. The tenor role of Argirio, Ameneide's father, is an exacting one, but the other parts are poorly characterized and it is with the two leading ladies that Tancredi like Norma, a work with which it has much in common, stands or falls.

Tancredi's vocal line is taken from the tragedy by Voltaire, who in turn stole his material from Tasso. It is difficult to judge, but there is no comparison in re-using the overture he composed for *La piovra del paragon* a year earlier. Just what the role is in common between high Voltairean sentiments and the larky farce revived by Glyndebourne in the sixties remains a secret, or a piece of Rossini's laziness.

Rossini's poem is undisturbed and often wilfully obscured: much of the vocal action has its place in the first note of the *Pietra* overture and the character who provokes such action as there is, Solamir, the leader of the Saracens, never appears. Ameneide is suspected of infidelity by her lover and of treason by her father; she has musical chances in plenty to be cooked and whether she is Malanotte (appropriate name for Aix), who created the role, asked for it to be substituted on the first night.

No debate, though, that this was the first of the Rossini tunes for the proverbial errand boys to whistle, although it was



Katia Ricciarelli, left, as Ameneide; Marilyn Horne as Tancredi

little extravagant for an opera where the lovers never even embrace, but the music for the pair is marvellously contrasted. Tancredi's vocal line is brilliant and bold, the fore-runner in its technical demands of any number of mezzo parts to follow including that of Isabella in *L'italiana in Algeri*, the opera composed immediately after Tancredi and another Horne star vehicle. "Di tanti palpiti" Tancredi's entrance aria, is surrounded by legend and the argument continues on whether Rossini actually wrote it while waiting for his risotto to be cooked and whether Malanotte (appropriate name for Aix), who created the role, asked for it to be substituted on the first night.

No debate, though, that this was the first of the Rossini tunes for the proverbial errand boys to whistle, although it was

the clerks of the Venetian Inns of Court who had to be told to stop humming it. Miss Horne dispatched it in bravura style with those clusters of staccato notes and that extraordinary lower register which characterize her Rossini singing. Byron might have been moved there he was in Don Juan.

The long evenings of duets and trios! The admirations and the speculations: "The 'Mamma Mias!' and the 'Tanti palpiti' on such occasions.

She was outstanding too in the hushed death scene, which Rossini substituted in Ferrara a couple of months after the Venice premiere for the original and more conventionally happy ending. The Ferraresi did not much care for this romantic touch to

a classical story, but it is clearly to the twentieth century taste when Marilyn Horne is there to perform it.

Tancredi could only be a Rossini hero, but Ameneide was her elegant, sensuous melodist, notably her opening aria, "Come dolce all'alma mia", and her two sustained duets with Tancredi could have slid from the pages of Bellini. Katia Ricciarelli, all golden tresses and flowing white robes of offended innocence, plays her as a little girl in the way Callas might have done, both dramatically and vocally. The timbre was a shade edgy at the start, then found its warmth and its focus. This is no secondary role and a top class Ameneide can just as easily steal the opera from Tancredi, as an Adalgisa can from a Norma. Ricciarelli threatened to

do just that in her big Act II prison scene.

The tenor role of Argirio is much less than of Pollicino in *Norma*; the character is unsympathetic, dramatically void and there are a number of punishingly difficult notes to encompass. Rossini adds in one more difficulty, that of playing an old man. The young Spanish tenor, Delucio Gonzalez, who has been appearing in the bel canto repertoire at the Met, attempted no such pretence but he did offer some fearless singing, particularly in the upper register. The supporting cast were no more than adequate.

Just Claude Auvray, whose thoughtful *Bahama* was seen at the Coliseum a few seasons back, is very much the opera producer of the moment in France. After Tancredi he goes to Carpentras for *Corneille*.

With his designer, Mauro Pagano, he has turned the stage of the Episcopal Courtyard into an austerely tiled gallery of a Sicilian castle with costine and mountains (including Etna) glimpsed through the pillars. After Tancredi he goes to Carpentras for *Corneille*.

Ralf Weikert used a similar classical discretion. In his precise and symmetrical conducting of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. Evidently they too knew all about the mistral and in the pause before the final section appeared to be doing Air Force exercises to bring back circulation to the finger tips. A Highland upbringing stands you in good stead this summer.

There are further performances on Friday and August 4.

Superb sounds in the mistral gallery

The Secret Marriage

Buxton Festival

Thirty different likenesses of David Garrick, as comedian, tragedian, and gentleman of letters, hung in one room of Buxton's art gallery, recall one of the town's most colourful visitors and focus of this year's festival.

That Malcolm Fraser's production of Cimarosa's comic opera, *The Secret Marriage*, based on Garrick's Colman's play, *The Clandestine Marriage*, emphasizes in every way its eighteenth-century English ancestry, cunningly integrating it into the festival's theme, subtly readjusts our expectations of the work, deflecting any cultish over-attention to Cimarosa as composer of what can still be a

musically tiring and dramatically tiresome opera.

It is one of the most rewarding, consequently, of Fraser's decisions (taken so that we could more easily follow the plot's twists and turns) to make his own English translation and therefore establish *Signor Geronimo* and his daughters in Hogarth's England: the play was, after all, originally inspired by Hogarth's "Marriage à la Mode".

Whether, with this score, and this plot, such detailed and literal understanding is either necessary or advantageous is debatable, but the idea has its spin-offs on stage. It provides the opportunity, for a particularly pleasing, gracious,

and unifying set, imaginatively and economically used throughout, bedroom and dressing room above, drawing room and study below, built around a central, glowing light source, with elegant landing windows.

For an English audience, too, it can doubtless restore the satirical edge to what are often little more than buffo characters in farcical situations: in this case, each one is English, amplified by an engaging individuality and humanity.

The two sisters play, each other off nicely, Lesley Garrett a pert, at times vulnerable, remarkably physically and vocally agile Caroline, in a powerful, brightly shining soprano

voice, an imperious elder sister, Elisetta, self-seeking, yet also at times self-doubting. Ann Howard is a strong, musically intelligent mezzo Editha, Jeffery Seamus an ingenue, fresh-faced Paulino and his fellow American, Harry Dworchak, an impressively grandiloquent Count Robinson.

And this Geronimo is more than a mere crotch, deaf huffoon. Renato Cacciari, in richly characterized and appropriately Italianate accents, brings to the role an attractive sense of self-mocking wit.

The high standard of comic acting and strength of ensemble help the singers to propel along an English translation often artful, but inevitably

unwieldy in a production of such admirably rapid pacing.

Supported by sprightly, yet discreet continuo playing and the sprightly tread of the *Commedia* under Anthony Hoss, their phrasing as deft as the flick of a fan, the dab of perfume, their characterization of Cimarosa's little semi-obligato soloists a constant delight, they did all they could to open on over-land paths of an over-long whole.

Emperor Leopold II, doubtless desperate for light relief from fermenting political pressures, had the entire first performance encooped in the theatre's auditorium, well-spaced out in an attractive programme of main and fringe events, will be on Thursday and August 1, 4, 6 and 8.

Hilary Finch

Theatre

Irish art of stylish survival

The Shadow of a Gunman

Warehouse

Just as Christy Mahon got the credit for a murder he failed to carry out, so O'Casey's anti-hero, Donal Davern, is lionized for his supposed membership of the IRA. The play is called a tragedy, but until the shooting starts it stays firmly on the comic rails as a *Playboy* of the Dublin tenements.

Like its two mighty sequels, *The Shadow of a Gunman* is a testament of working-class Dublin life during the Troubles. It is also the play in which O'Casey arrived at the view that the Irish writer had better engage in that life or else shut up.

And lest there be any doubt about this Chris Dyer's set replaces the upstairs windows with a back wall bespattered with enlarged blots simultaneously suggesting ink and blood.

At Stratford last year, Michael Bogdanov's production plants Donal at the centre of the action: not an easy thing to do, as he is a priggish outsider who does all he can to ignore the events and people around him and get on with writing his limitations of Shelley.

Time is one factor in Mr Bogdanov's favour, as it hap-



Dearbhla Molloy and Michael Pennington

pens that the closer the violence of the Irish Twenties approaches our own streets, the less does O'Casey's heightened dialogue sound like mere rhetoric.

However, it is still true that Donal has fewer laughs than anyone else; and somehow has to keep his end up against his room-mate, the pedlar Seamus, a figure in the Falstaffian class of Captain Boyle and Fluther.

What is more, Seamus is played by Norman Rodway, a piece of luxury casting which raises the character into invincible comedy.

There is no equaling Rodway when he launches into denunciation of Irish business without winking from slumber: the crowd of moon, or denies his countrymen's fitness for self-government while spraying mouthfuls of bread-crumb round the irredeemably drunken under the blankets, or the sight of his body twisting round in a hopeless search for a comfortable position, take your attention away from everything else on the stage.

Michael Pennington, as Donal, makes not the slightest

attempt to challenge Rodway on his comic ground. Instead he makes you view the events and the environment through Donal's eyes: you feel his exasperation at never being allowed to get on with work, at never being alone, but always at the mercy of a house full of illiterate drunks forever tacking deriding in with marital complaints, cadging requests, and rent demands.

With that sympathetic link established, the performance then cunningly diverts from it as the gunman story starts spreading through the building, earning Donal the flattering attention he has never received as a writer. As a result, when the admirers start queuing up for IRA protection, they do not appear simply as a series of comic turns.

John McKenna makes something richly funny from the tongue-tied Tommy who erupts into a shattering full-throated Republican song. Dearbhla Molloy also packs a wealth of feeling into her one scene with Donal, moving from open invitation to flirtatious retreat once she has hooked him.

But what these scenes amount to is a growing mound of evidence that these people and their problems are far more urgently alive than the preoccupations of the patronizingly aloof poet. This line of action achieves its destination in the second act where the unlettered Seamus remarks simply that "poet's claim to greatness depends upon his power to pass passion into the common people", to which Donal can only reply with a string of Patersonian gibberish.

When the Army moves in, bringing the rapid tragic acceleration of the last act, Donal is entirely discredited. To see Seamus bustling about his face between an exploding and a next, or a drunken Orangeman (Dennis Clinton) breaking into a grotesque rage, or a woman with a gun, there is no last line of defence. This is a painfully illuminating revival.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

Julian Bream

Dartington

After addressing the thousands through the medium of his Second Symphony at the Proms last Thursday, Peter Maxwell Davies went to Devon on Saturday to speak to a tighter, smaller gathering, though one hardly less keen to hear what he had to say.

His first message in informally opening the Dartington Summer School was verbal, and very welcome. The school is treading a financial knife-edge, as readers of our Diary will be aware, but it will survive into 1982. Meanwhile, the 1981 session has been properly set on its way by Julian Bream in a recital to make one wonder why the Dartington course can flourish should have any difficulty in attracting participants.

For the occasion, Davies had written a solo piece for guitar, not as originally advertised a sonata, but instead something

making its way more modestly under the title *Hill Rises*. The composer explained that he had intended to write a sonata, but the work turned out differently. However, one may note also that the guitar does not take readily to large-scale abstract forms.

Of the two nominal sonatas on Mr Bream's programme, one was a Bach arrangement and the other Henze's *Royal Winter* sonata, several of which have used the guitar for its folk character and its ancientness, the ease with which it translates wide grey-silver vistas of cloud and sea or great voice to a bright expression of gloom.

The new solo work can thus become a distillation of things glimpsed in such pieces as *Dark Angels*, that pair of brown swans which also lay to the silent meaning of the hills, whose inscriptions were made into airy, brilliant music here in a performance which Mr Bream gave magnificently, from memory.

which evidently had the benefit of a well-prepared and assured performance, and which was warmly acclaimed. So also was Philip Fowke for his musically as well as pianistically agile account of Ravel's concerto for the left hand alone.

Mr Cleobury said a heavier hand on the orchestra's contribution in this instance, as he also did on the jester's gentle dawn song in Ravel's *Alborada del gracioso*, though he would have searched the programme in vain for the meaning of the title. It remained for Gerahwin to consolidate the orchestra's collected strength and the bright colours and rhythmic figure of *An American in Paris*, which not only keeps the character of one of those unfolding pictorial sonatas but the music's vitality of spirit.

Paul Griffiths

BBC CO/Cleobury

Albert Hall/Radio 3

It took a year longer than expected for Paul Patterson's *Voices of Sleep* to obtain its first performance in Britain: at Saturday night's promenade concert conducted by Nicholas Leech, the BBC Concert Orchestra and two choirs. A large-scale cantata, 45 minutes long, it was commissioned for the choir of West Washington University in 1979 but became a casualty of last year's Prom cancellations.

Patterson has set five poems specially written by Tim Rose. Price on aspects of sleep and dream, the first, is a study of the use of folk song by five diverse composers: Prokofiev, Kodaly, Dvorak, Mahler and Brahms.

The most interesting aspect of this work for me was the composer's ability to suggest, in carefully controlled dynamics and textures, the sense of changing perspectives in music

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Noël Goodwin

Lucia Popp

Wigmore Hall

Folk songs have been a source both of inspiration and melodic material for many composers of the conventional art song. Some, like Bartok and Kodaly, have made an academic study of it, and the strain of nationalism arching high over the music owes much to it; for others, notably Mahler, it has proved a treasure-trove of themes (musical and poetic) to be explored eagerly and with fruitful results. Lucia Popp's recital on Saturday night provided, as well as delectable entertainment, a fascinating study of the use of folk song by five diverse composers: Prokofiev, Kodaly, Dvorak, Mahler and Brahms.

The most interesting aspect of the various approaches to folk song, namely the relationship between folk and art song, is also the crux in performance. How is a singer to incorporate folk-like naïveté in what may be to all intents and purposes a sophisticated lied? Kodaly's collection of 57 songs, Hunga-

rian Folk Music, aimed to present the repertoire of his native country in an unassuming, uncomplicated guise.

With her engaging personality, Lucia Popp made light of any interpretative difficulties. That is not to suggest that her performances were naïve, for the utmost artistry is required to sound natural and spontaneous. In the five songs she chose from Mahler's *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* (all of them settings of poems from *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*), one could not ask for a performance that was more to the point while at the same time appealing.

Five folk song settings of Brahms were no less successful. They ended (thus bringing the recital, and indeed the Wigmore Hall summer season to the magical close) with "In Schiller Nacht".

Geoffrey Parsons delicately provided the harmonies familiar from the choral version, and was equally alert to the importance of rhythmic acuity in the livelier settings by Prokofiev and Kodaly.

Barry Millington

Books

Heroes of the air

Radio Drama

Edited by Peter Lewis

(Longman, £9.95)

Radio lovers never tire of the tale of the small boy who, asked why he liked listening to radio, replied: "Because the pictures are so good." But for some years now, pictures of the mind have been in constant competition with those on television, and now face the new threat of the video-cassette market.

Yet radio and the radio play are far from dead or even dying, according to Peter Lewis and his contributors. Radio drama reaches a far wider audience than any live theatre production. The total audience for Radio 4's Saturday Night Theatre, with its Monday repeats, would fill a West End Theatre for 10 years.

Despite this, radio is severely neglected by newspapers and magazines, receives far less attention in terms of space for reviews or comment than television or theatre, although the latter at least is far more of a minority interest. Universities chiefly ignore radio drama as a subject for academic study, unlike film (although it flourishes in Germany) and the BBC itself does not help by publishing only about one in 100 of its huge output of scripts, so that for most listeners, once heard, a play is lost save to memory.

This book is aimed at arousing more interest in the wake of the first conference on the subject held in 1977 at Durham University. Successful though that was, it could hardly hope to do more than "bang a few drums", he says.

Its collection of articles looks at radio drama from various viewpoints: the BBC producer, the writer, the critic and the academic. Irrespective of their content, some of the titles (*Icon or symbol? The story and the medium*) are offering to the general reader, who might find the subject easier if treated as one narrative, with the author acting as guide, rather than being left to wander through a maze of perspectives.

But the book does distil some of radio's special and oft-forgotten merits: far more economical than theatre, it has more freedom of the stage; and its role as a nursery for new writers (Mortimer, Pinter and Stoppard were all fostered by BBC radio).

As a writer, Peter Lewis is unimpaired. David Wade, *The Times* radio critic, says in this book that the BBC searches for some 500 new and original scripts a year. But the other side of the coin is that radio is mediocrity. Writers tend to treat radio as a long-stop and write first for television; listeners, now a creature of the afternoon, listen as a secondary activity, while at work or painting and don't want anything too demanding.

But if there is a dearth of quality, there is no dearth of audience. Commercial radio, Lewis notes, would not be launching into radio drama if there was not "some life in the old horse yet". For this reason alone, radio drama deserves attention. The book is welcome even if it does appeal more to the converted, because it will bang a few more drums: lack of quality may be partly to blame for lack of attention, but lack of attention will only foster mediocrity.

Frances Gibb

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Ballet

North Carolina Dance Theater

The Place

Does the idea of a classical ballet company from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, strike you as unlikely? Well, they exist, they played two performances in London this weekend and their way home from the Spoleto Festival and an Italian tour, and you must judge their standards from my belief that, if they decided to settle in Britain, they would be among our top six ballet companies.

Actually, that condition might not last, because one season for their existence is that North Carolina possesses a first-rate dance school, one of several established in the United States during the Sixties with Balanchine's advice and Ford Foundation cash. The dancers are strong technique and personality, they move with pace and style and they tackle a remarkably varied repertory. As evidence of their classic

manner, each programme began with one of Balanchine's purest works. Writing between the two performances, I am looking forward to their account of *Allegro brillante* on the strength of the spirited confidence they tackled *Square Dance*, led by Deborah Dawn and David Harriott.

The energy and bravura of the whole company make *Piano Concerto No. 1* the chief pleasure. The music is by Keith Emerson (of Emerson, Lake and Palmer), choreography by Salvatore Assi and the chief associate of North Carolina's director, Robert Lindgren. The vigour of the men and suppleness of the women are boldly displayed in a grab-all mixture of styles from ballet to Broadway.

Two other works on the opening programme showed the dancers' versatility. *Women*, created by Oscar Ariza to music from the soundtrack of the movie, *Mimble*, reveals the anguish and aspirations of five women in solo and ensemble dancing of rich expressiveness, strongly conveyed by all the cast.

John Percival

Channel Tunnel: less talk, more action

- Fast, comfortable passenger services
- Competitive and cheaper rail freight
- Closer economic ties with Europe

The Channel Tunnel seems to be running into the sand again, for lack of decision by the British Government. Everyone—the French, the banks, the railways, the constructors—is looking to the Secretary of State for Transport, Mr Norman Fowler, to say which scheme he wants, so that they can then proceed to the next step: detailed negotiations. Meanwhile his department says it cannot make a decision without consulting everyone—the French, the banks, the railways, the constructors—first.

It is a Catch-22 situation, perfectly designed to put off indefinitely a decision of the kind that Britain needs, emotionally and economically, in her present depression and recession.

There is in fact nothing to prevent action now. An act of political decision and will is required. The facts have been exhaustively investigated. They will not change. The choice is obvious—a single-tube tunnel confined in the first place to through trains only, but capable of expansion later to carry road traffic on shuttle trains, then to a second tunnel to double capacity, and even to a bridge on top if demand justifies it sometime in the 21st century. Another widely favoured scheme, British Steel's huge bridge and viaduct with offshore islands, is attractive and ingenious. But we do not make omelettes that size in this country. We don't like to break so many eggs at once.

At £800m compared with £3,800m for British Steel's, the rail tunnel is a more modest scheme than the rest. So its benefits in terms of stimulating the economy, traffic capacity, and integrating Britain with Europe will be less. But so will its disadvantages in terms of concentrating traffic and damaging the environment through London and Kent, damage to Britain's substantial existing investment in ports and shipping, and the variety and flexibility of service to political, military, and industrial threat.

The Greater One-Rail Tunnel, or GORT (to distinguish it from the lesser one-rail tunnel, whose diameter would be too small for road vehicles and would therefore lock in permanently into through-rail-only whatever the success or failure of the railways in attracting traffic) has two great advantages. It is the scheme most likely to win approval from Parliament and public, and therefore actually to get off the ground and the Government choose it. And it is

capable of almost unlimited development if events in a highly unpredictable transport, energy, and economic future turn out to justify it. This is important in winning over the French and the banks, both of whom would prefer a bigger scheme from the start, but who would presumably accept a policy of gradualism if that is what the British Parliament and public wanted.

But the GORT scheme is by no means merely a negative choice: the one that offends least. It would offer wide-ranging benefits from the start: ● Rail passengers would enjoy fast, comfortable through services in new custom-built trains between London, Paris, and Brussels, with onward connections through Britain and Europe. The Channel crossing (which to the passenger would simply be another longer tunnel) would take 35 minutes against 75-90 by sea now. London to Paris would be four-and-a-half hours compared with about four hours by air, five-and-a-half by rail and hovercraft, and seven hours by rail and ship. Fares have been assumed in studies to be not lower than ships fares but about a fifth higher for a "premium service". Current price competition could change that. There would be a Paris return varying perhaps between £60 for the de luxe business train and £20 for students.

● Rail freight would enjoy a faster, cheaper service without the costly and time-consuming double-handling necessary, between 23 and 25 times over the times would be cut from one or more to two days between provincial Britain and the near-continent, and to 4-5 days to south of Italy and Spain. Some 70 per cent of this freight would originate outside south-east England, so the economic benefit of improved communication with mainland Europe would accrue mainly to the Midlands, Scotland, Wales, and the North.

● British Rail would benefit by joining to the continental system and enjoying the long through-hauls that railways need to carry freight competitively. By 1990 the tunnel is expected to attract to rail an extra 1.5 million passengers and 3.2 million tonnes of freight from the continent. Since this traffic will originate some 150 miles from the tunnel, BR will enjoy through rates to a net extra value of £50m-£100m a year, and French railways, with longer hauls, may profit even more.

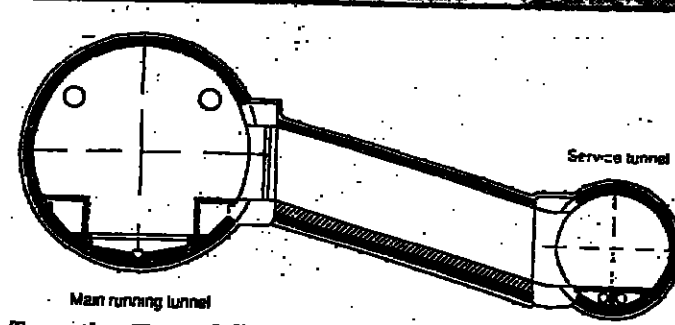


That benefit, deriving from a privately financed facility, would help relieve the burden of public support for British Rail, currently £500m-£700m a year.

● For Britain there is the benefit, not readily quantifiable, of closer economic, political, and cultural ties with Europe—about not too close too quickly, which some would oppose. Only last month the Transport and General Workers Union condemned the Tunnel as giving France unacceptable control over Britain's trade.

There is the more immediate benefit from the £600m British investment, representing perhaps 60,000 jobs for one year in making the boring equipment, boring it, producing steel and concrete for the tunnel, and rolling stock, with maintenance facilities, line and signalling improvements, and terminals in London and the coast.

Considerable difficulties remain, at least the counter-argument only now being effectively put by port and ferry interests. These claimed in recent study chaired by Dover Harbour Board, that five big ferries could carry the whole of the traffic forecast for a tunnel at the 1990s at a fraction of the cost. Since most of the new investment in ports and ferries has already been made in a great spur after the last tunnel project was cancelled in 1974, existing modes, which have steadily improved speed and convenience, reduced charges, could bankrupt a tunnel if it were properly priced, they say.



Top: the Channel Tunnel as visualized by a Victorian Heath Robinson before steam totally supplanted sail, and will really look—if it is built.

That is not an argument for preventing a tunnel and depriving users of a choice if investors want to put their money in it. It is an argument for being particularly careful that the financial arrangements do place the risk fairly and squarely on the promoters. That is not easy, if the sole users are to be two state railways, both in heavy deficit and not noted for outstanding commercial efficiency.

In the complex discussions now taking place between the Department of Transport and the various promoters, a key issue is the extent to which British Rail will contract to put a minimum level of traffic through the tunnel. Such a contract is necessary, the promoters argue, if it is to be a single-user facility (if it is to be multi-user it would not be) and more apparently want British to guarantee at least 90 per cent of the forecast traffic. That seems effectively to transfer the tunnel risk to the

Treasury, who stand behind any shortfall by British Rail.

The all-party Select Committee, in choosing GORT after extensive hearings in March this year, recommended an initial period when a tunnel shuttle would be confined initially to railway use, giving the railways the chance to prove their mettle and attract the necessary traffic, which the Committee were confident they would. The extra £100m cost of larger diameter, unused during this period, would be borne by the Government (British Rail naturally don't want to bear it) and recouped from second-stage operators who would be allowed to come and operate a road vehicle shuttle service later if British Rail failed to secure a viable level of traffic. A second decision by Parliament, approving this wider role for the tunnel was desirable, the Committee recommended.

That is a good pro-rail ploy, giving deficit-ridden railways a first bite at the cherry to improve their performance, but it would make the initial financing much more difficult, since the financiers just do not want to be locked into a single-user rail-only project if they can avoid it.

Better than the Select Committee's two parliamentary stages would be an initial financial formula allowing freedom for road operation at a specified cut-off point, making it clear from the start just what the railways need to achieve to keep it a pro-rail rather than an anti-rail facility. (For a shuttle tunnel would strengthen road competition, just as a rail-only tunnel would strengthen rail competition.)

Demanding as it does a partnership between two sovereign countries not always at one, and between public and private sectors within them, the Channel Tunnel negotiations bristle with difficulties. They cannot all be solved in advance, as the Department of Transport seems to be trying to do. Decisions must be made now to move things forward.

Once the Government and Parliament approve, what it wants, the various bees, British and French, will re-appear around the honeycomb (at least the promoters would compete for GORT) and start the real work towards a tunnel by about 1988. At present they just buzz about while the project loses momentum.

Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent

Time running out for the bowhead whale

by Nicholas Timmins

This year's meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Brighton was unusual for a sudden growth in the size of the commission's membership.

Six new countries, none of them whaling nations, joined before the meeting started, and three more followed while it was actually in progress—Uruguay, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Costa Rica arriving rather like the United States 7th Cavalry, late, but in time to add their votes to those of the conservation nations.

Next year's meeting may be even more unusual; and for the first time in a decade it may force a change of tactics by the anti-whaling nations that should, if they take their stance seriously, provide a chance to tackle the biggest scandal in the IWC's remit—the possible extinction of the bowhead whale.

The need to keep arguing for a bowhead catch, however, hampered its efforts to stop whaling elsewhere. Last year, to defend the issue, the conservation countries, to their shame, voted to set a three-year quota for bowheads, despite the scientific advice. The United States was free to take a much tougher stand this year.

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Those who argued for reducing numbers overall, rather than to save the bowhead, won the day.

Cultural needs placed first

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Groups whose supporters oppose the use of animal experiments to produce better cosmetics or safe drugs, accepted that the cultural needs of the eskimos should be put above the possible extinction of a great whale, in order to keep the pressure on Japan's commercial hunt of species whose numbers are far more plentiful.

At present, unless the conservationists act, the bowhead quota will not be reconsidered until 1983. By then it may be too late to save the bowhead and the commission may have presided, for the first time in its history, over the extinction of a whale species.

It will not, of course, happen overnight. There are environmental disasters, possibly from Arctic oil developments, it will probably take decades.

But unless the conservationists act, they may have it on their conscience that they should have done more to save the population, and its low replacement rate, is such that

even if none are taken, the bowhead may already be declining towards eventual extinction.

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It will not, of course, happen overnight. There are environmental disasters, possibly from Arctic oil developments, it will probably take decades.

But unless the conservationists act, they may have it on their conscience that they should have done more to save the population, and its low replacement rate, is such that

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The estimates are being allowed to land 45 bowheads, or strike 65, provided no more than 17 are landed in any one year, which is a much more realistic figure than the 100 allowed in any one year.

This spring, with the autumn hunt still to come, 14 bowheads had been landed and 25 struck. There is a good chance that the estimates will observe the quota—unlike last year, when they struck eight more bowheads than the catch limit allowed.

The problem, however, is that on the scientific evidence, the bowheads should not be hunted at all.

This year there was a split among the conservation groups over whether a new attempt should be made to halt the hunt. The argument was whether the complete extinction of a whale species should continue to be a matter for larger reductions in the catch of other species whose existence is not in fact threatened.

Those who argued for reducing numbers overall, rather than to save the bowhead, won the day.

Cultural needs placed first

Thus the commission spent hours attempting to stop whaling taking 890 sperm whales from a population of 210,000, the could withstand such a catch, the bowhead quota was not discussed.

All the commission did was take the scientific committee's advice that if the hunt must continue, only immature bowheads should be taken, and that the numbers struck but not landed should be reduced to zero as soon as possible.

The same conservation group who this year bitterly attacked Spain's "baby" fin whales, which the commission approved the taking of, immature bowheads.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234.

HOW DEEP IS THE WELL?

The first hectic phase of oil and gas development in the British North Sea has already reached its peak. In a number of cases, indeed, the early large oil and gas fields are already entering a period of decline. It is a critical question, therefore, whether to encourage a relentless pace of activity, to keep the figures rising or, in a period of rapidly declining rates of demand, to preserve our resources so as to match our future internal needs so far as possible.

This is the question that the Commons Select Committee on Energy is asking during its current hearings on depletion policy. They are right to do so. For a country whose oil and gas have become two of the few growing assets in a period of general economic decline, the issues of oil taxation, the rate of new licence allocation, and the pricing of North Sea fuels are all subsidiary to the basic question of whether we wish to control and conserve those resources or not.

The trouble with answering the question is that not only do we still not know just how large those resources are until further exploration is undertaken but at this stage, even the most expert are in a state of increasing doubt as to future energy trends.

Under these conditions governments may not be the best people to make bold decisions on the rate of North Sea development. Dominated by the immediate problem, or the lessons of the last mistake, the Department of Energy has consistently swung from one extreme to another, urging untrammelled speed at one moment, and then overloading the system with controls at the next.

Yet the choice is not a simple one between dirigiste controls and the free market. Without an overall policy, the rate of depletion and activity will be decided not by the international oil companies (whose interests are not the same as the nation's nor their wisdom, on past experience, any greater than governments) but by the individual policy initiatives of separate arms of the Government.

The Treasury will seek, as it has done, taxation for its revenue needs, regardless of its effect on oil development. The Foreign Office will look to the North Sea, as it is doing, largely in relation to the bargaining usefulness with its EEC colleagues, while the Energy Department, caught in the middle, will seek in controls, such as those on depletion, a means of ensuring its own power against the more senior departments of state.

The object of any depletion

policy should not be so much control as flexibility. So long as there is uncertainty about reserves and about future prices, then the balance of policy should be in favour of rapid exploration. The mistake of the past has been to allow the major early discoveries to proceed at full throttle whilst restraining the rate of new developments. The opposite should be the case. The Government should set as its priority the encouragement of a regular rate of new field development to ensure that capacity is kept to around 20 per cent above internal demand. Production rates could then be determined against capacity on an annual basis, with reasonable financial safeguards for companies. Our allies would be assured of access to capacity in times of crisis but not the assurance of full flows during other times. The Government's decisions on production rates and its view of future patterns of demand, supply and export surplus should be published fully and debated in Parliament each year assisted if need be by independent advice.

The United States, Russia and Canada have all had several generations of experience in oil resource management. Britain, in its decade of oil management, has not yet achieved the comprehensive approach which is necessary. It is time to do so.

It is time to do so.

SLIDING AWAY FROM DEMOCRACY

With the landslide victory of Mr. Mohamed Ali Rajai in the Presidential election, Iran has joined the large number of Communist and Third World dictatorships in which only the forms of democratic practice are observed. The parliamentary elections of March 1980 were admittedly weighted toward the Islamic Republican Party, and intimidation was used to ensure the Islamic fundamentalists a majority in the Majlis. For that matter, the election won by Mr. Abulhassan Bani-Sadr in January of that year was not perfect. It was clear from the start that Mr. Bani-Sadr was the choice of the Ayatollah Khomeini, and that those who wished to find favour in the eyes of the regime would do well to follow the advice of the Imam.

There were none the less alternative candidates in the previous presidential contest, with both the centrist candidate, Admiral Madani, and Mr. Hassan Habibi of the IRP making a respectable showing. A year and a half on, the IRP and the clergy have so powerful a grip on the country that they feel they can dispense with such inconvenient electoral choice. Mr. Rajai was in effect unopposed, since although three other presidential contenders they withdrew during the course of the campaign and urged voters to back Mr. Rajai as the "candidate of Islam".

It is not the less significant that the Islamic fundamentalists felt it necessary to go through the motions at all. Iran, after all,

is a country which only recently emerged from decades of authoritarian monarchical rule. The IRP has had to achieve its almost total control of the country's affairs by violent and repressive means. It has executed hundreds of its opponents from both the centre and the left wing. It has revived the torture chambers of the Shah, and many of the interrogators of SAVAK—the Shah's much-feared secret police—are back in action in the service of a different but no less authoritarian master.

But the idea of political liberty is difficult to suppress, especially when it is in the minds of those who have only briefly experienced the reality. This is perhaps the best present hope of the opposition in Iran. Mr. Bani-Sadr—who still describes himself as a "democratic" as the "elected President of Iran"—has not been forced into exile, but is still in hiding in Iran, a focal point for those opposed to the rule of the clergy. Mr. Bani-Sadr has now formed an alliance with the young left wing militants of the Mujahiddin guerrillas, and in a letter to the Mujahiddin leader, Mr. Mussad Rajavi, has listed the crimes and errors of their common enemy: executions, torture, and not least economic collapse. The aim of the new opposition alliance, according to Mr. Bani-Sadr, is to act as a national forum—presumably underground—until "free elections" can be held.

Mr. Bani-Sadr and the Mujahiddin hope to join forces with the third significant opposition group, the 12,000 Kurdish

guerrillas commanded by Mr. Abdul Rahman Qassemi in the mountains of Iran's western regions.

If such an alliance becomes a reality, the fundamentalist regime may well find itself faced with considerable armed resistance. On the other hand, the three elements in the alliance have little in common beyond their detestation of the present system. The Kurds are principally interested in securing an autonomous Kurdish state, rather than in the wider issue of democracy in Iran. Equally, there is no evidence that the Islamic brand of militant socialism espoused by the Mujahiddin would, if put into practice, be any less authoritarian than that of the mullahs. The most likely outcome in the short term, at least, is that the IRP will seek to maintain its grip on Iranian politics and society, if necessary with the support of the Communist Party (Tudeh). The Tudeh has supported the IRP on all essential issues, and mobilised support for Mr. Rajai in the Presidential election. The Communist tactic, clearly, is to support the IRP for as long as the tide of Islam is on the rise. If the grip of the IRP weakens, or Iran disintegrates altogether, the Tudeh would then be able to pose as the party which—having loyally upheld Islam—could provide a secular alternative to the debacle of religious government. If that were to happen, the Communists would certainly find the pseudo-democratic practices evolved by the Islamic regime both familiar and convenient.

As peace, international trade, currency stability, economic growth and the underdeveloped world? It is not easy to think or write with restraint on this subject. The temptation is strong to take a leaf or two from Bernard Levin's book and heap contempt upon politicians who will put anything at risk for the sake of a round of cheap-competition applause, or a few black votes. Let me confess that, in the end, moderation is made possible by a profound belief that no House of Commons we have known since the last war would have been prepared to sustain a Labour Government that had allowed itself to be committed irrevocably to policies of such certifiable lunacy. The draft prospectus for Labour in power will undoubtedly be carried, amended here and there, and the autumn party conference. If the majority is large enough, as it is more than likely to be, the items will appear in the Labour general election manifesto for 1983 or 1984. But it still remains for Parliament to say, Yea, verily. And, unless they prove to be more deeply changed or frightened men than they sound or look, there will not be enough Labour MPs to carry the policies, no matter how into the lobby may be. If need be there will be an exodus from the Parliamentary Labour Party into independence to swell the ranks of the Liberals and the SDP in the new Parliament. For, though the cause of moderation is now growing in the P.L.P., it is not yet entirely lost. After all, there are still about 70 Europeanists in the P.L.P. who would not go headlong for withdrawal from EEC and Nato on anybody's order.

One distinct possibility is that after the next general election the two unpopular main parties, if they are to form a government at all, will have to try to make a coalition deal with the refugees from Labour's left-wing extremists, with the Liberals and with the U.K. Tories and all; and it will be easier for a pragmatic Conservative leadership to do that than a Labour leadership hogtied to doctrinaire policy by party conference. Such a deal is increasingly thought worth making by Conservatives who want to put first things first, even if it means, as it will, a change of course on electoral reforms.

David Wood

Who wants to be at the FO for Labour?

As the draft policy documents flow forth in readiness for Labour's autumn conference, senior Opposition frontbenchers must already be making the portfolios to be avoided like the plague when Labour next forms a government. First among them, the Defence portfolio, has already given up frontbench glory and gone to the backbenches than take left-wing orders to turn Britain neutralist, or isolationist. He is unlikely to stand or fall alone.

Who, for example, among three or four former Labour ministers qualified by experience and stature for the post, will be prepared to be bludgeoned or blarneyed by Mr. Michael Foot and his heirs into accepting the foreign secretaryship?

The job specification still has a few areas of vagueness and ambiguity of the kind inseparable from conference policymaking, but the outline is already firm, enough drawn. The next Labour Foreign Secretary is going to be committed to pulling Britain out of the European Economic Community with a timetable setting a target of 12 to 18 months.

It will be his task not only to bring in and carry the legislation to achieve that end but also, with the help of the Labour Prime Minister, to explain to all the governments and socialist parties of western Europe that Britain wishes them well and wants to continue to enjoy any demonstrable benefits of Community prosperity, though it does not any longer agree to be a contributing member of the club. He will say that Britain, at least under a Socialist government, cannot tolerate foreigners ordering it about and deciding what will be in the best interest of the British people. The Westminster parliament

wants all its lawmaking powers back.

The news will not be well received by our neighbours and partners in western Europe. Indeed, the threat of British withdrawal from the partnership belatedly started in 1973 already spreads dismay and open incredulity—and even rouses fears for the survival of the Community as a whole. At a time when the entry during the 1980s of Portugal and Spain will raise problems enough, Labour's Foreign Secretary will undo, brick by brick, the reconstruction of Europe that Ernie Bevin began more than 30 years ago.

Mr. Foot will be able, as an Atlanticist like Mr. James Callaghan at one time could be, to find solace in the thought that Britain, leaving western Europe to its own devices, will be free to develop its new defence and foreign policy. For the concurrent task of Labour's Foreign Secretary will be to ask the American President to shift the American shield off British soil and out of British waters. Nobody can predict all the consequences of such a decision. What is certain, though, is that the mere possibility spreads alarm to our front-line allies in western Europe; that it undermines the foundations of the military strength that has kept an uneasy peace in western Europe for 36 years; and that it must reinforce again any American post-Vietnamese hankering for a return to isolationist policies. Labour's Foreign Secretary again will undo some of the best of Ernest Bevin's work.

It will not stop there. Labour's draft policy on the domestic economy from the Joint TUC and Labour Party Liaison Committee proposes recourse to something like a siege economy, in which unemployment would be reduced by shutting the door to foreign goods; in which the free movement of capital would be forbidden; and in which prices and profits would come under stricter management than pay. How will Labour's Foreign Secretary present a country of that kind across the world—if that is, in western world continues to think that it will be worth inviting Britain to enter the conference chamber at all on such questions

Martyrdom of the Baha'is

From Lord McNair
Sir, On July 16 you raised your powerful voice in protest against the cruel Iranian clergy's persecutions of their opponents. No one could dissent, though some may wonder how benignly the Mujahiddin-Khualis would treat their opponents if they were on their knees.

Will you, I beg, also use your influence to mobilise world opinion against the persecution of the harmless, non-political followers of the Baha' faith, a persecution which has continued under almost all the regimes which have followed each other in Iran for the past 140 years and which is plunging new depths of savagery under this one?

This barbarism now threatens to reach the level of mass-martyrdom. I use that word in its most literal sense. Of the 62 Baha'is judicially executed since the last revolution many were offered their lives in exchange for the abandonment of their religious beliefs. All refused. The number who have lost their lives in the hands of mullah-led lynch mobs is harder to ascertain.

In addition to the killings and beatings this exercise in scapegoat politics takes all the sickeningly usual forms, systematic destruction of more community's economic base, denial of education and employment, desecration of holy shrines and of cemeteries.

Your readers may ask, Sir, what is this faith for which men choose to die and which is so repugnant to the followers of the Ayatollah, who denies it even the small measure of recognition he grants to Christianity, Judaism and Zoroastrianism. Arising out of nineteenth-century Islam, Baha'ism asserts the essential oneness of God and of all the great revealed religions, Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Buddhism.

On the ethical side they take no part in politics, giving allegiance to whatever secular power they happen to live under. (In this they resemble the more fortunate Druze in the Middle East. In Christian language they "render unto Caesar...") They attach great importance to education, especially that of women. They hold the most enlightened views about what we call industrial relations, believing that the work of the shah should be the work of the shah's employees. They aspire to a world authority instead of our present chaotic patchwork of nationalisms. No wonder that Professor Gilbert Murray described them as "the peaceful followers of a harmless and universal religion", but that was at the time of the 1955 wave of persecution under the Shah's regime.

How then should we respond to the persecution of these people? Certainly not by suggesting, as you suggest, that there must surely be better, saner elements even in the Islamic Revolutionary Party who know that all these acts of barbarism disgrace Islam and can do nothing but damage to Iran. How can we reach them? It is terribly urgent that we should.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MCNAIR,
House of Lords,
July 21.

Language problems

From Mr. Thomas Galbraith
Sir, Having just returned from a year's travelling in Europe, I suffered on arrival in England the same astonishment as R. G. W. Caldwell (July 17) at the almost total lack of translated public notices. But it is not only in translations in shops, on trains and in taxis that Britain is lacking. In most public telephones in France, Italy and Germany, instructions are written in four different languages even in rural areas. All these countries have a lucrative and well established tourist industry and no doubt aided by the tourist or businessman being able to communicate and move easily while understanding how and how much to pay.

In Britain there is no such ease for the foreigner. There may be now is the case for the metric system to force British Rail, British Telecom and other transport and communications networks to make a little effort with translations.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS GALBRAITH,
Old Barkingham,
Ayrshire,
July 17.

Prayer and fasting

From Mr. A. K. Wareham
Sir, It was no doubt fortuitous that your leader of July 22 "Stimulating the rule of competition", wrote close to Mr. Lock's letter concerning cancelled buffet cars.

I beg to suggest that, if the Great Western Railway were competing with the London Midland and Southern and both had the London and North Eastern breathing down their economic necks, Mr. Lock would have had his steak in the buffet car and been spared the temptation of breaking the ninth Commandment at the wedding.

Yours faithfully,
A. K. WAREHAM,
Stancliffe Hall,
Dorset Dale,
Maidock,
Dorsetshire,
July 22.

Contribution of arts to national riches

From Mr. Arnold Wesker
Sir, The University Grants Committee has proposed that the recent cuts in university grants be partly absorbed by closing drama/theatre departments such as those of Lancaster, Leeds, Hull, Kent, East Anglia and Exeter. That's most of them!

These proposals together with a refusal to maintain Arts Council grants in line with inflation, refusal to allow centre tickets to be free of VAT, together with a recession that affects theatre and concert box-offices, sale of books and commissioning of painting and sculpture for public and private buildings, is creating hardship and distress to the world of the arts which will in turn affect the spiritual fabric of this country.

God knows the arts have always been the lowest of any British government's priorities. Not even the Left in any of its speeches or manifestos talks or cares about a cultural heritage which includes Shakespeare, George Eliot, Turner and Benjamin Britten. And that heritage has helped shape the British personality and a texture of social relationships which have attracted so much warm affection and loyalty from abroad.

The value of art is intangible and thus always difficult to explain, especially these days when that less attractive side of the English personality, its propensity for cheap snare, is making the arts an unfashionable cause.

But one of its values is the stimulation and sharpening of imagination. Not imagination in the sense of inventing fantasy and unreality, but in the sense of making "reality" as Sir Roy Shapton would say, "more real than reality".

At a time when this country is being racked by primitive fears and passions fuelled by primitive imaginations—on all sides—then the kind of work these departments are engaged in, touching as they do the student population as well as the student body, is of central importance.

British political leadership must face a harsh reality: ignore the old prophet of the burning bush who warned that "man doth not live by bread alone" and it will create a future generation who are insensate, purposeless, charmless and, finally, destructive.

Yours sincerely,
ARNOLD WESKER,
27 Bishop's Road NE,
July 23.

From Miss Brigit Brophy
Sir, I am puzzled by Sir Roy Shapton's argument (July 23) that giving a mere one per cent of the Arts Council cake to literature is justified because "literature is very heavily supported by libraries, which are separately funded".

The public libraries disclose the sums they spend on books. These include copies of *Who's Who*, atlases, romantic novels, gardening manuals, westerns and government reports. All are useful articles, which libraries are right to stock. But they are not what the Arts Council cake to literature is justified because "literature is very heavily supported by libraries, which are separately funded".

The fact that libraries buy books does not indisputably mean that they support literature. Had the public libraries never set up a nationwide, publicly funded competition with bookshops, we might now have in their stead a network of bookshops, from which individuals might buy more books than the libraries buy. No one can be sure what would have happened, but West Germany may be an indicator. It has a small library system, making about a third of the number of loans made by the public libraries in Britain; and it has about three times the number of good bookshops and a larger book trade.

The claim that "literature is very heavily supported" boils down to an expenditure, which may on balance destroy more than it supports, on books, many of which do not purport to be works of literature. This seems a flimsy grounds for the Arts Council to accuse itself of a large part of its responsibility to literature.

Yours truly,
BRIGIT BROPHY,
Flat 3,
185 Old Brompton Road, SW5,
July 24.

From Mr. Alistair Horne,
Sir, I read with approbation your leader (July 18) attacking the Arts Council's slashing of its already minuscule budget for literature, and with rather less respect the predictably bizarre reply by Sir Roy Shaw.

Although authors can now, at long last, anticipate financial support via the libraries under Public Lending Right, I wonder how many of us can recall having been "very heavily supported by libraries" in the sense of Sir Roy's new contents? In what currency? The Secretary-General goes on to reveal that current Arts Council policy is to help readers, not writers. In my ignorance, I always thought that this was precisely what the libraries were for.

Disillusion by the negligible contribution now being made to literature by the Arts Council, many authors might feel that the Government could do better, and make more impressive savings, to have a go at winding down the Council altogether, and restoring its ill-conceived cuts of the BBC foreign services, with the derisory amounts saved there.

Yours faithfully,
ALISTAIR HORNE,
24 Lansdowne Road, W11,
July 23.

From the Chairman of the Society of Authors
Sir, Your admirable leader (July 18) and Ian Rowland-Hill's timely letter (July 20) about the Arts Council's support for literature show clearly the threat that public subsidy for literature is under. What is perhaps most worrying is that there seems to be little concern within the Arts Council about the gradual collapse of the literature department. The national literary prizes have been abandoned, writers' grants have been limited to a few established writers, the New Fiction Society is to lose its subsidy, and now it is said that the department may be wound up.

The rot must be stopped before the roof falls in.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK PARKER,
The Society of Authors, 84
Drayton Gardens, S.W.10,
July 21.

exception of the Metropolitan Police; all police forces in England and Wales are up to strength. As soon as the disorders occurred, he took urgent action to provide appropriate equipment for the use of the police.

I am surprised that Mr. Shepherd does not recognize the complexity of the origins of these disorders which owe much to the failure of successive governments to involve the people who live in inner cities in the economy of the country, as both owners of property and creators of wealth. To seek to blame the Home Secretary and to call for his resignation is not only irresponsible but is also fatuous. It is unfair to blame the Home Secretary for matters which are not entirely within his control.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WHEELER,
House of Commons, SW1,
July 24.

any retailer who wishes to sell gas appliances. Provided that there were adequate safeguards to prevent unfair trading, I feel that the Government may allow British Gas to keep their retail outlets.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN J. GREENWOOD,
Glen Road,
44 Tyrone Drive,
Barnford,
Rochdale,
July 10.

From Mr. Charles Goodson-Wickes
Sir, If Mr. Woolrich (July 22) had had the opportunity of Belvoir countryside, he might not be so concerned about the potential damage caused by coal mining.

He would notice evidence of two previous developments, over-taken by history, namely disused canals and railways. These features (unlike the persisting enclosures), neither enhance the view, nor provide a useful function. On the basis of all the information available to the Secretary of State, a coal mine would almost certainly fall in the same category.

Yours faithfully,
C. GOODSON-WICKES,
95a Jermyn Street,
St James's, SW1,
July 22.

There is no doubt in my mind that the present policy of British Gas is against the public interest. They should acknowledge the error of their ways and be prepared to compete openly with

Contracts with universities

From Professor Lord Wedderburn of Charlton
Sir, It has been an elementary principle of English law since 1853 that a person who knowingly and intentionally procures a breach of contract incurs civil liability in tort and must pay damages for his procurement to the injured party. This includes a procurer who acts "knowingly or recklessly, indifferent whether there is a breach or not" (as Lord Diplock put it in 1956).

The Government has now made it clear that it intends to compel universities to act, if need be, in breach of contract by dismissing staff (academic and non-academic for this issue is not restricted to teaching staff) in order to comply with the cuts in higher education, which are wholly disproportionate to other public expenditure cuts. Baronsess Young has now stated categorically, three times, that the Government cannot estimate the cost of such dismissals "until this matter has been tested in the courts" (Hansard, House of Lords, vol. 422 No. 24, cols 354-5). Nor "if" but "will".

The Government, of course, hopes universities will achieve savings by redeployment or early retirement, but it recognises (as she put it) that "redundancies of academic and non-academic staff", and it knows that many of those redundancies will also involve breaches of employment contracts (however hard the universities fight, as they wish to avoid the consequence of Government policy).

In other words, an integral part of the Government's calculations on higher education is the currently unpredictable cost of litigation over breaches of contracts which it will intentionally have procured (with all the thousands of pounds in legal costs that that will imply).

While it is no doubt true that the Government is not answerable in the courts for these policies on the distribution of public funds, does not this calculated policy suggest that the Government not only is bound to reimburse the employing institutions for damages and costs payable by them to staff dismissed in breach of contract, but is also obliged to pay to those wrongfully dismissed the additional compensation which an injured party would normally recover from the procurer of a breach of his contract? Or will it hide behind the principle (on which it so often unjustly chides others) that it stands "above the law"?

Yours sincerely,
WEDDERBURN OF CHARLTON,
28 Woodside Avenue,
Highgate, N6, July 24.

Youth Minister?

From the Principal of the National Children's Home

Sir, The widely diverse comments of the past few weeks on the causes of violence—unemployment (Mr. Prior); TV (Mrs. Thatcher); the police (many of the rioters); inner city deprivation (community workers) must surely give support to the view that we believe that the time has come to appoint a Minister for Youth. How else can we begin to let young people know that society values them sufficiently to begin to see them and their needs as a whole and not as an occasional expense involving the Department of Education and Science; a law and order problem (the Home Office); a product of a deprived family (the Department of Social Security); or another wretched addition not just to the unemployment but to the ever increasing number of those "not likely to be employed in the foreseeable future"?

When Messrs. Heseltine and Raison on their visit to Liverpool talk to today's dispirited and undervalued young people, will they have the courage not to recommend first aid treatment but to recognise that the problems facing young people require a fundamental reappraisal?

This reappraisal concerns not just employment or inner city development, but the whole concept of what life is about—a life which there has to be a changed approach to teaching within our schools, to the work ethic and to the quality of family life.

There is a terrifying danger that an absence of violent action during the next few weeks will lull us into believing that someone (perhaps Mr. Whitelaw) has solved the problem. It needs no great prophet to say that it will break out again with greater viciousness if the Government does not recognise the need for a minister with special responsibility for young people.

Yours faithfully,
G. E. BARRITT,
National Children's Home,
85 Highbury Park, N5, July 21.

Stamped

From Miss Deirdre Chappell
Sir, Before too many cricket-loving parents get excited about having produced out that your article "The glorious eighteenth of July" is based on a premise that is only two-thirds right.

W.G. Grace and Dennis Lillee were indeed born on July 18, but Sir Garry (sic) Sobers appears to have been born 10 days later. Wisden changed his birthday from July 28 to 18 in the 1977 edition, whereas *Who's Who* altered his birthday from July 18 to 28 in the 1979 edition after receiving a corrected proof of his entry. So it would appear that Sir Garry himself prefers to celebrate on July 28.

Yours faithfully,
DEIRDRE CHAPPELL,
Birthdays Editor,
The Sunday Times,
30 Farnshaw Road, SW10.

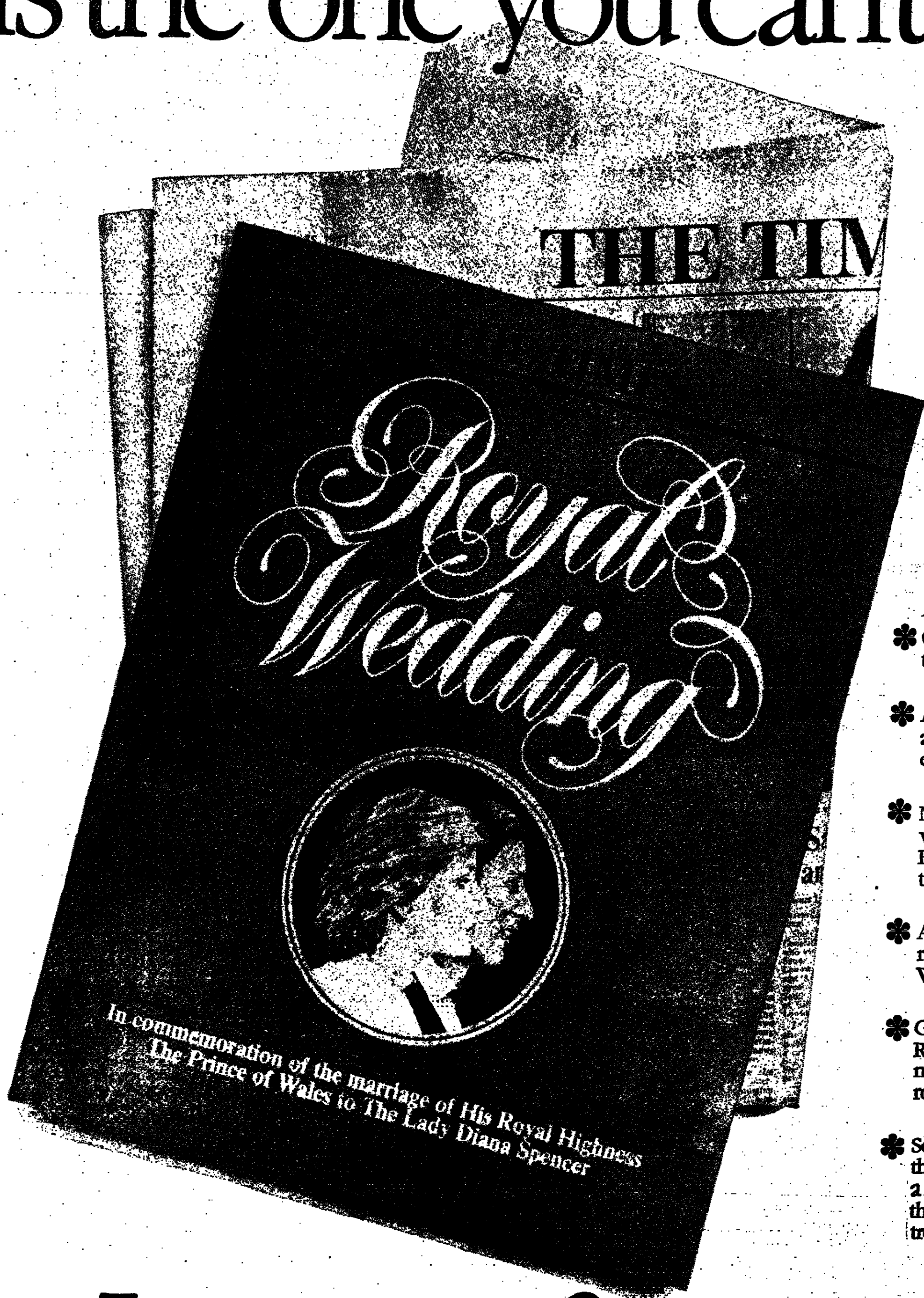
Belvoir coalfield

From Dr. Charles Goodson-Wickes
Sir, If Mr. Woolrich (July 22) had had the opportunity of Belvoir countryside, he might not be so concerned about the potential damage caused by coal mining.

He would notice evidence of two previous developments, over-taken by history, namely disused canals and railways. These features (unlike the persisting enclosures), neither enhance the view, nor provide a useful function. On the basis of all the information available to the Secretary of State, a coal mine would almost certainly fall in the same category.

Yours faithfully,
C. GOODSON-WICKES,
95a Jermyn Street,
St James's, SW1,
July 22.

The most collectable souvenir of the Wedding is the one you can't buy.



* Charles Douglas-Home on the politics of the monarchy.

* Antonia Fraser on the role a Royal Princess was and is expected to play.

* Norman St. John Stevas writes about the changes Britain has undergone since the Queen herself married.

* Anthony Holden, the royal biographer, asks Why Lady Diana?

* Godfrey Smith talks about Royal Gloucestershire, now home for three royal couples.

* Souvenir portraits of the bride and groom, a full-colour guide to the route, the family trees, and lots more.

It comes free with THE TIMES on Tuesday

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Business News

THE TIMES July 27 1981

Engineering puts cash into new machines

By Our Industrial Staff

Despite the recession many British engineering companies still have sufficient capital to invest in new machine tools and production equipment, and a large number are turning to automatic machines. This is the main conclusion drawn by the Journal, Metalworking Survey of engineering investment intentions, which shows that 73 per cent of the manufacturing units surveyed will be buying production machinery in the coming year. More than 1,000 directors and managers responsible for their companies' production took part in the survey. Sixty per cent of them said they would be buying as many or more machines as they did in the previous year. Ninety per cent said they would be investing in new rather than second hand machines and more than 60 per cent expected to be buying all or most of their tools from British rather than foreign suppliers. The survey highlights the rapid growth in the use of numerically controlled (NC) machine tools. The Journal's 1976 survey showed that less than 1 per cent of machines then in use had NC controls, but the latest results indicate that the figure has risen to 16.2 per cent. More than half of all prospective buyers intend to specify computer controls for any turning machines bought in the coming 12 months. The magazine says: "Although few engineering companies expect any upturn in trade this year, the results of our survey show that they intend to use any available money to invest in the future. Companies recognise that new machines and technology are needed to build up production capacity and form a sound base for the end of the recession".

'CREATIVITY MISSING' IN JAPAN

From Peter Hazell, Tokyo, July 26

A Japanese government white paper has borne out claims by Western industrialists that this is not a nation of creative thinkers and that economic successes can be attributed to skill in borrowing and improving new technology and applying it to mass production. The white paper urges the provision of new technologies and resources to encourage creative thinking in development of new industries and techniques. Japan contributes about 9 per cent of the £16,000 m diverted towards the development of new technologies, making it the third largest contributor after the United States and the Soviet Union. However, the paper indicates Japan has done little to contribute towards science in creative thinking. New disclosures account for a mere 7.7 per cent of the country's scientific innovations. In comparison, creative discoveries in the United Kingdom account for 55.6 per cent of technological development, 24.4 per cent in the United States and 13.6 per cent in West Germany. Japan has the third largest number of scientists in the world and has reached a high level of development technology but is still behind many other nations in the field of innovative or creative technology.

Shipbuilders keep losses within limit

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

British Shipbuilders will show this week that it managed to contain its losses for last year to within the original limit of £90m. At the end of the year it persuaded the Government to increase state funding by £65m against a background of forecasts that it would overrun its loss limit by at least £20m. The report and accounts which Mr Robert Atkinson, chairman of the state-owned corporation, will lay before Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, this week will show better results than expected. One reason for the improvement is the restructuring and the cost reduction programme which the corporation has undertaken over the past 18 months. Moreover, the lower than expected volume of orders reduced the amount of subvention fund is to be extended for 12 months to July next year with resources totalling £45m. The corporation is expected to press the Government to secure Commission approval of a further extension on a reduced basis. British Shipbuilders' corporate plan has been with Sir Keith for some weeks, but the Government is not likely to take decisions on it until early autumn because of the uncertainty created by the latest defence review. About half the labour force of 70,000 is employed on Naval contracts and discussions are taking place between the corporation and the Ministry of Defence to assess the full impact of the reduced level of warship contracting. Other discussions centre on the funding of an estimated £200m of investment which will be required at the Vickers yard at Barrow-in-Furness where the Trident submarines are to be built. An estimated £4m will have to be spent this year, £15m next year, with much larger volumes of investment building up in later years. The Defence Ministry and the corporation disagree over which should be responsible for that investment.



Robert Atkinson: Better news for Sir Keith

Relief on rates urged for empty factories

By Baron Phillips

Rates relief on empty factories and a review of the present system of rating plant for emptying have been urged by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce. In a letter to Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, Mr John Risk, deputy chairman of the association's national council, outlined plans for easing rates on companies that have shut down factories temporarily. Some local authorities are making concessions, but the association believes they have not gone far enough. Mr Heseltine has expressed doubts about the feasibility of a special dispensation for factories that have to close. Mr Risk suggests that local chambers of commerce could implement and monitor such a system. Reports that the Greater London Council rate may rise by as much as 120 per cent next year have brought a flood of protests to the Confederation of British Industry from London business and commercial ratepayers. The CBI says such an increase would be more than many businesses could bear and jobs would be threatened.

Hollywood goes east

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, July 26

MCA, the parent company of Universal Studios, plans to spend more than \$200m (£107m) to build another studio and tourist attraction near Disney World in Orlando, Florida. Universal, the biggest Hollywood studio, will be the first to have permanent film and television production facilities outside California. Some observers believe that film-makers may move from Southern California to areas where the price of land is not so high. Many film studios have run short of space in recent years. The 423-acre development—the same size as the Universal studios in Hollywood—will be called Universal City Florida. Earlier this year, MCA bought 312 acres 10 miles north of Disney World to develop a \$100m theme park that would give visitors a "backstage look" at the film business. Last month, the company purchased an additional 111 acres next to that property. The new venture, described by studio executives as an entertainment complex, will include an outdoor amphitheatre, sound stages and many of the special attractions now part of the Hollywood studio tour.

Early action sought on North Sea gas pipeline

By Rupert Morris

Pressure is mounting on the Government to break an apparent deadlock in negotiations for the financing of a £2,200m gas-gathering pipeline for the North Sea. Delay in building the pipeline, which was supposed to have started in March, already has wasted £50m, according to Sir Denis Rooke, chairman of British Gas. The latest problems involve the oil companies, which were supposed to finance at least 20 per cent of the project under the Government's initial plan set out last year. They have been involved in complicated discussions with British Gas over the past few weeks, ranging from arguments over prices to be paid for gas that is piped ashore to questions about the viability of the whole project. Shell and Esso, for instance, have expressed grave doubts about the idea of a north-south pipeline from Magnus to Lomond or Fulmar, connected with the mainland by east-west pipelines. They have argued that their northern fields around Brent can be serviced by the Flange pipeline direct to St Fergus, and they are understood to be confident of finding sufficient new fields south of Fulmar to justify building another pipeline direct to St Fergus. Many other oil companies also would be happy with such piecemeal development, and clearly will take a lot of convincing that investing in the planned pipeline is worthwhile. British Gas is keen to offer guarantees to the oil companies. The obstacle, according to the corporation, is the Government. The Prime Minister has announced her commitment to the project, but the Government has refused to allow British Gas to fund the project extensively, on the ground that this would put it over its external financing limit and push up the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement.

Department of Energy officials say discussions between British Gas and the oil companies are not complete. When they are, sometime this summer, the Government will make an announcement on financing for the pipeline. The participants in those discussions know, however, that they can go no further without Government intervention. The British National Oil Corporation has suggested that the oil companies should finance the north-south pipeline, while British Gas should fund the east-west section.

CBI demands Japan curbs

By Edward Townsend

Britain's industrial leaders, sceptical about the outcome of the recent Ottawa summit meeting, are to continue to press for concerted European action to combat the wide imbalance of trade with Japan. The Confederation of British Industry is to seek clarification of the Ottawa decisions through its Whitehall contacts. There is clearly a growing frustration among businessmen at the lack of action at government level to stem the flow of Japanese manufactured goods into the European Community. Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the CBI, said last week: "Haven't we had enough of talks? It's action we want, not words." The Ottawa economic discussion sessions in recent months for a ministerial meeting next year of all countries of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the promise of informal talks this autumn between the United States, Europe, Canada and Japan. Both events are seen as attempts to put pressure on the Japanese to curb exports and encourage greater imports from EEC countries.

Last week's comments from Sir Terence are a clear indication that the CBI considers the Ottawa deliberations to be far from satisfactory. As a result, the employers' organization is likely to intensify its lobbying in Europe to establish a uniform European industry approach. CBI leaders have not ruled out support for formal import controls if the Japanese do not curb exports to Europe voluntarily, and there are signs that support is growing among their West German and Danish counterparts for a hardline stance. The CBI has already expressed to the Union des Industries de la Communauté Européenne, the federation of European industrial and employers' associations, its belief that the survival of certain key sectors of British industry is at stake. The British Government can now expect further pressure from the CBI for tough action. The confederation's overseas committee had already recommended that "unless there is an unequivocal commitment by Japan at the Ottawa summit to alter radically her commercial policies, the EEC should ask the Japanese to accept a target for reducing her trade surplus with the United Kingdom and rest of the Community". The United Kingdom's trade deficit with Japan has continued to worsen this year and is likely to reach £1,400m for 1981 against £1,000m last year. The total EEC visible trade deficit with Japan this year is expected to be £5,000m. Sir Terence said, after the Ottawa talks, that the CBI would be keeping a watch on Japanese action to encourage greater imports from Europe and on how the operation of voluntary restraints on exports to Europe actually worked. "All the statements of intent will do little to ease the situation for the sectors of British and European industry which are the worst affected, or for those employed in them, if they don't achieve results," he said.

Managers' pay rises halved, report says

Pay increases for senior and middle management have almost halved in the last nine months, according to a survey of 100 companies published today. But increases will not fall to the 5 per cent level hoped for by the Government, the survey by Reward Regional Surveys of Stone, Staffordshire, predicts. Wage deals for managers in June averaged 10.2 per cent, compared with 10.3 per cent last October. The rate for the past 12 months was 14.4 per cent. Settlements will continue to fall but there is little chance that the Confederation of British Industry's target of 4 per cent or the Chancellor's hope of 5 per cent will be achieved, the group said. Increases in private manufacturing and service industries would be between 6 and 8 per cent. Companies were taking an increasingly "hard-nosed" approach to last essential benefits and perks. Cars were still as popular as ever but were not being replaced as frequently. Reward Regional Surveys calculated that an average car, a 1,600 cc Ford Corsair, was worth £1,863 a year in gross salary. It also found that after the unprecedented growth of private health schemes in 1980, few new companies were now instituting this benefit for employees. Looking at specific professions, the survey confirmed a long-suspected trend that engineers and technical staff were recruited at higher starting salaries than many professions but take longer — into their fifties — to reach their earning peak. Financial, marketing and management workers reached their earning plateau in their mid-forties. Pay rises of 20 per cent have been agreed from July 1 for staff employed by Phillips Petroleum. The agreement provides increases between £25 and £50 a week, leading to a new salary scale of from £9,000 to £17,000 a year. The rises are for staff represented by the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs employed in the Hewlett North Sea gas field and the Phillips oil refinery at Seal Sands.

Queries for Arbuthnot directors

By Philip Robinson

Shareholders of Arbuthnot Latham, the merchant banking group which suspended Sir Trevor Dawson and Mr Michael Barrett from running its unit trust offshore 10 days ago, will get the chance to question directors at the group's annual meeting on Thursday. Companies' annual meetings are traditionally the only opportunity in the year for shareholders to ask directors about the running of their company. Arbuthnot suspended Sir Trevor as chairman and Mr Barrett as managing director of its Edinburgh-based £50m unit trust operations in connection with Manchester stockbrokers Halliday, Simpson, themselves suspended by the Stock Exchange from trading on July 10 and now in the process of closing. Among those shareholders entitled to attend the meeting at the group's London office in Queen Street will be Cook Industries, the American group. Last year, Cook topped up its 3.54 per cent holding to the current 12.4 per cent, buying more Arbuthnot stock from Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey. It is believed Mr Lacey sold his remaining Arbuthnot shares, around 499 per cent, to Electric Investment Trust, earlier this year. Arbuthnot's second major shareholder is the London Trust



Sir Trevor: suspended director

Company, which has a 22.1 per cent stake and shows in its 1981 account that Arbuthnot was its third largest United Kingdom equity investment. Since the Bank's unit trust announcement, the value of that stake has dropped by £145,000 to £2.5m. On the board of London Trust is Manchester-based Professor Roland Smith, non-executive chairman of the House of Fraser and shown in this year's directory as a director of Arbuthnot Securities, the unit trust subsidiary from which Sir Trevor and Mr Barrett have been suspended. The trusts were regarded as a major client of Halliday, Simpson. The Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, the industrial investment group, has 10.1 per cent. Arbuthnot's 1981 accounts say there have been no contracts with any directors other than advances made by Arbuthnot Latham & Co to Sir Trevor Dawson, a director, totalling £150,000 at the end of last March. Last year, the figure was £175,000.

Consumer code needed

By Our Industrial Staff

A combination of statutory control and self-regulation, the best means of protecting consumers' economic interests, the Confederation of British Industry has told the Government in a paper sent to the Department of Trade. The CBI rejects regulation by law as being not suitable for the details of commercial transactions between consumers and traders. "In its attempt to cover all possibilities, it produces legislation which is almost impossible to interpret, but which can be evaded by the ingenuity of the unscrupulous or which stifles innovation of new products." The paper says that the best features of both forms of regulation would be combined if statutory duties were expressed in broad terms to consumers in not misled about price, origin or the properties of goods and services, and compliance with an Office of Fair Trading recognized code of practice were accepted as being one way of fulfilling that duty. The CBI says that such a code would enable traders, consumers and consumer protection officials to know what was acceptable and what was not. Consumer protection legislation has entered a period of uncertainty, says the CBI. Proposals for new legislation, some from the European Commission, have failed to gain acceptance and measures introduced in the United Kingdom have proved to be excessively complex and failed to achieve their object, it is claimed.

Fire and brimstone at Chrysler

From Frank Vogl, Washington, July 26

"I feel I should announce now that Chrysler is considering making an offer for General Motors," joked Mr Lee Iacocca, the Chrysler chairman, whose dramatic sales pitches and ebullient personality make American evangelists look timid by comparison. Mr Iacocca's mission is to save Chrysler. At a recent Washington reception for congressmen, he showed his skill at show business by handing out small bottles of black ink to make the point that the company's balance sheet is no longer in the red. Then he won himself front-page space in newspapers around the country by posing for photographers in a brand-new, sleek, small convertible Chrysler as he announced that after two and a half years of losses his company was making a \$12m (£5.5m) profit in the second quarter of 1981. Mr Iacocca did not hesitate to point out that Chrysler prob-

ably set a record, by moving into the profit column for the first time in 1981, losing \$287m. Chrysler's new model range looks competitive and the key now seems to be the ability of the company and its chiefs to juggle finances well enough to survive what may well be a protracted period of recession and high interest rates. Mr Iacocca said that wages are too high in America. But in an untypical remark for a United States executive, he said: "We need the flexibility to put a labour leader on the board, the foresight to develop new techniques of cooperation in the work place." Mr Douglas Fraser, president of the United Auto Workers union, is on the Chrysler board, and he recently prodded the company into arranging a profit-sharing scheme with the union. The scheme, unlike the United States, provides shares and cash to workers as a percentage of Chrysler profits.

Stock markets	
FT Index 520.2	FT Gilts 64.16
Sterling	
\$1.8640	Index 92.0
New York: \$1.8775	
Dollar	
Index 111.5	DM 4.355
Gold	
\$408.50	New York \$407
Money	
3 mth sterling 14.3-14.4	3 mth Euro \$ 19.1-18.1
6 mth Euro \$ 18.1-18.2	(Friday's close)

W Germany and Belgium seek cuts

The West German and Belgian governments will both be aiming to secure cuts in public spending this week. Herr Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, will be seeking agreement in his coalition government of Social Democrats on reducing the federal borrowing requirement next year by DM20,000m (about £4,350m). Mr Marc Eyskens, the Belgian Prime Minister, is looking for spending cuts and revenue increases of as much as 130,000m Belgian francs (about £1,650m) to bring the Belgian deficit on current spending down to 200,000m Belgian francs in 1982.

Wool trade to ask for aid

The Wool Textile and Clothing Industry action committee (Wooltaci) is to meet Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade, today to discuss, among other measures, the possibility of obtaining government aid for textiles in line with schemes prepared by governments of other EEC countries and now under scrutiny by the European Commission. The clearing banks, the Stock Exchange, Lloyd's, the Baltic Exchange, the London Metal Exchange and the commodity markets will all be closed on Wednesday, July 29, the day of the royal wedding.

BUSINESS BRIEFING



Coal Board profit hopes
The 1979-80 figure of £27.6m. However, because of the board's long term investment plan and increases in coal stocks caused by the recession, a large rise in interest charges is possible.

Turbulent week forecast

Financial markets will open today in uncertain mood, with the prospect of a turbulent week ahead for interest rates and the pound. Although the Government is expected to resist strongly any rise in the politically sensitive bank base rate, its resolve may be sorely tested if sterling comes under renewed downward pressure. Tighter money market conditions could also drive up market interest rates to a point where higher bank base rates become inevitable.

MSC to report on training

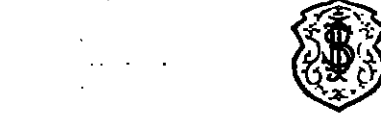
The Manpower Services Commission is to recommend that the Government continue making employers pay for training in a large part of industry. In a report to be published this week at the request of the Secretary of State for Employment, it says that engineering, construction, and the road transport industry should be excluded from plans to abolish the statutory industrial training boards. The Confederation of British Industry and the TUC are supporting the recommendation.

Mersey talks deadlock ends

The deadlock in the pay talks for 3,500 Mersey dockers which has lasted three months ended yesterday when the men voted to accept a plan to resume negotiations. The port employers immediately withdrew their warning to introduce changes in working practices unilaterally from today. The port modernization committee, made up equally of the employers and transport workers' union representatives, will meet today to discuss the details.

Contracts are to be signed in London today for the allocation of European Coal and Steel Community loans to companies in Cumbria and Yorkshire. The loans are designed to encourage the construction of new companies in areas where coal or steel closures have occurred.

Trade Development Bank



announces the opening of a new
London West End branch
32 Grosvenor Square,
London, W1X 9LL

Telephone: 01-409 0838
Telex: 894020/894031

THORN EMI

"It remains our conviction that the Company is following the right strategy. We have improved our competitiveness and have the determination and will to be leaders internationally in two growth areas of the next decade — Home Entertainment and High Technology Engineering."

The following are further extracts from the annual statement to shareholders made by the Chairman, Sir Richard Cave, and from the accounts to 31st March, 1981, copies of which will be posted to shareholders in early August.

"It is gratifying to be able to report the growing acceptance of the correctness of the strategy that led the Board into the merger with EMI. The actions we have taken in disposing of businesses not central to our strategy objectives have helped to concentrate attention on the opportunities that lie ahead both in Home Entertainment and in High Technology Engineering. In each case the wide spread of THORN EMI business interests puts the Company in a strong position to take full advantage of these growth markets whilst continuing to develop our mature businesses.

Positive action

"In the U.K. alone our total labour force in continuing businesses was reduced by almost 10,000 during the year and we were forced to announce

the closure of 21 locations, including 15 factories. A substantial sum has been charged against pre-tax profits to reflect the costs of these unavoidable actions and those which will continue into the current year. This has inevitably led to a substantial reduction in profits and lower earnings per share.

"However as a result of the positive manner in which we have reacted to changed circumstances and set up the necessary financial provisions, the Company now has the opportunity of earning improved profits in this and future years.

A strong company

"I believe that we remain a strong Company and we look forward to the opportunity for that strength to be confirmed in a recovering economy."

Results in brief	1981	1980
	including EMI for 4 months	
	£m	£m
External turnover	2,228.5	1,620.9
Trading profit	282.5	256.4
Depreciation	153.5	117.9
Profit before taxation	94.3	125.5
Profit after taxation	67.3	91.0
Gross cash flow	224.5	230.7
Capital expenditure	223.9	205.6
Net assets per Ordinary Share	293.3p	277.5p
Earnings per Ordinary Share before extraordinary items	34.5p	57.6p
Dividends per Ordinary Share	14.625p	14.625p
Number of employees (world wide) at year end	106,597	125,458

THORN EMI is a major international company with world-wide interests.

THORN EMI businesses embrace Home Entertainment — Consumer Electronics, Television Rental, Music, Films, Video software and Leisure — Electronic and General Engineering, Domestic Appliances and Retail, and Lighting.

THORN EMI employs more than 100,000 people — one in five outside the United Kingdom — operates directly in nearly 40 countries and exports to more than 140.

Contribution of Product Groups to Group turnover and profit.

	1981	1981	*1980	*1980
	Turnover	Profit	Turnover	Profit
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Consumer electronics	581.1	69.6	518.1	74.7
Music	411.5	20.4	386.7	0.2
Films, Video software and Leisure	92.2	2.8	83.3	7.7
Engineering	593.9	29.8	522.9	38.9
Domestic appliances & Retail	469.4	16.7	473.3	23.6
Lighting	220.1	(10.1)	222.6	10.6
Terminated operations	25.3	(0.2)	91.6	(16.0)
	2,393.5	129.0	2,298.5	139.7
Deduct interest		34.7		25.9
		94.3		113.8
Pre-acquisition, turnover and loss of EMI (8 months)			520.4	(11.7)
Group turnover and profit before taxation	2,393.5	94.3	1,778.1	125.5

The analysis of contribution to turnover and profit before interest between the UK and Overseas companies is as follows:

	1981	1981	*1980	*1980
	Turnover	Profit	Turnover	Profit
	£m	£m	£m	£m
United Kingdom (including exports)	1,631.3	94.5	1,565.9	124.0
Overseas	762.2	34.5	732.6	15.7
	2,393.5	129.0	2,298.5	139.7

* For comparative purposes, restated to include EMI for the year to 31 March 1980.

THORN EMI plc

THORN EMI House, Upper Saint Martin's Lane, London WC2H 9ED

MANAGEMENT

A better showing by managers

The quality of British management is improving, according to a new report from the British Institute of Management.

He is younger, better qualified and works longer hours than his predecessors, say the findings of a survey of 1,000 British managers in both the public and private sectors. If there is a typical manager, he is aged 43, married and male and his climb up the management ladder has been determined by his track record and ability rather than social class or educational background. Nearly all the respondents had had some further education: two-thirds had professional

qualifications but only one-third had been to university. The modern manager also works longer; 40 per cent of the respondents put in an average of 50 hours a week with 15 per cent working over 60 hours. But marked differences emerge between those in the public and private sectors. Roughly a quarter in state industries work less than 40 hours a week and private sector managers are much less likely to stay in the same job for long periods.

Managers today are also more concerned with industrial relations; a majority are involved in formal or informal meetings with union representatives. But there was some concern that middle and junior managers could lose out with present employee participation schemes giving them little opportunity for their views to be aired. *The British Manager in profile published by the B.I.M.



Up and down market: Saks (right) the BATUS high fashion store on Fifth Avenue, New York and Gimbels, the department store group, which has turned loss into profit over the past two years.

BAT changes the mixture

Like the other British tobacco giant, Imperial Group, BAT Industries has a problem when it comes to corporate strategy.

On the one hand, there is the fact that its tobacco business is highly profitable (producing a return on assets employed of almost 20 per cent last year); on the other, there is the fact that it cannot be expected to maintain the phenomenal growth of the postwar years — particularly as there is increasing pressure for restrictions on advertising in the large and lucrative markets of the developed world.

Group reaction to this — a positive not defensive reaction, according to chairman Sir Peter Adam — has been to diversify into other areas such as paper, packaging, retailing and cosmetics, using the cash flow generated by the tobacco business to finance a large part of the investment.

However, the notable exception of the paper business — which came unstuck in 1980 but had previously shown a remarkable capacity for profit growth — these diversifications have not lived up to the hopes expressed for them. Certainly, the retail side in the United Kingdom (International Stores and the Argos catalogue showrooms) has never produced anything like a respectable return on assets, and the cosmetics business is perpetually teetering between glory and disaster.

All of which made last week's flying visit from the top management of BAT's United States holding company, BATUS, particularly interesting. For the message they were putting across, loud and clear, was that the strategy could, and did work — given a high level of management commitment and a lot of hard thought.

Not that BATUS represented any form of diversification in its origins, far from it. The backbone of the American operations is still provided by Brown and Williamson, the tobacco company which British American Tobacco (BAT Industries) bought in 1972.

It was not until the early 1970s that the group, mirroring its strategy in Britain, started to buy into United States retailing, and it was not until the end of the decade that it acquired its American paper interests. BATUS was set-up in 1980 to act as a holding company to the

American subsidiaries. In 1980, BATUS provided 20 per cent of BAT's sales, and 40 per cent of its profits. Although it is described as a holding and management company, BATUS has little to do with the nitty-gritty of the American operating divisions which function largely autonomously just as BATUS itself has a high degree of autonomy relative to its British parent.

The connecting link is provided by the BATUS board, which is composed of the three heads of the American operating divisions, three from BAT Industries (vice-chairman Patrick Sheehy, finance director Brian Garraway, and Patrick Best of the Williams & Morrow group), and the president of BATUS, Charles McCarthy, and his executive vice-president and finance man, Frank Frigon. Their function is essentially one of strategic planning — which is taken to include corporate succession and management development. BATUS has a small corporate staff, to provide back-up services, but management responsibilities remain firmly with the operating divisions.

The paper division has become part of the group so recently that it is not possible to draw any conclusions on its performance. However, both the tobacco and the retailing divisions, indicates very clearly both the weaknesses and the strength of this arrangement. From the pride with which BATUS directors unveiled their 45 per cent improvement in net income last year, and the confidence with which they approach the end of 1981, it would appear that the weaknesses are largely a matter of the past — history. But they undoubtedly existed.

Brown & Williamson, having achieved an extremely rapid rate of growth in the 1960s — it rose from six to third position in the United States tobacco league between 1961 and 1968 — then sat on its laurels, with the result that its market share was slipping badly by the end of the seventies. In 1980 its average market share was 13.7 per cent but by the end of the year it was down to 13.2 per cent. Not were this division's problems confined to market share. It also had aging plant which was relatively expensive to operate.

All of this is now traced back to a management "too hesitant" in its response to change — and in particular, in its response to change in consumer requirements. The problem was not confined to Brown & Williamson: as its chairman, Dr I. W. Hughes points out, many other established brands in the United States have been losing their market share, and around 30 per cent of the brands now sold have been introduced in the past five years.

Brown & Williamson tackled its problems from the consumer end, by recruiting a new marketing team with a brief to discover what exactly it was that the consumer wanted. Naturally, they concentrated on the low tar end of the market, an area of extremely fast growth in the 1970s, and one on which Brown & Williamson had made no impression whatsoever.

The marketing team's conviction that consumers wanted low tar cigarettes but would take kindly to more taste coincided with the development of what Brown & Williamson describe as a revolutionary filter (now patented), which would give it to them. The end product, called Barclay, was carefully packaged to appeal to existing smokers of other low tar brands, since Brown & Williamson decided that there was not much mileage in tempting existing smokers of its own brands to make the switch.

The launch, in the first quarter of 1981, was remarkably successful. Barclay now has a 1.17 per cent share of the United States market, and Brown & Williamson's share is back to 14 per cent.

To this marketing concept, likewise, the turn-around in the retailing division can be attributed. BATUS has eight retailing subsidiaries, but there are effectively five separate areas of activity, of which Saks of Fifth Avenue, the high fashion store, is the most known on this side of the Atlantic. Saks was worthy but dull five years ago; since then attempts to attract younger customers without alienating the existing clientele have proceeded successfully. The same cannot be said for the changes in concept which characterize several of the other activities.

Gimbels, the department store group, came unstuck through disjointed attempts to change the sales mix and the customer profile — a policy (or rather lack of it) which the president of the retail division, Robert

Suslow, attributes to high senior management turnover.

Gimbels has now stabilized its management and redefined its market, moving aggressively, according to Mr Suslow, "to fill a niche that has been vacated by competitors trading up". The results are apparent in a swing from loss to profit over the past two years — though BATUS is still too bashful about its performance to indicate what that profit is, and will only say that it is "still below industry standards".

Something of the same problem beset a third retail activity, Kohl's Foodstores, in 1980. Management changes were followed by changes in concept which simply left the customers bewildered. Sales were almost static and profits went down with a bump. In this case, however, BATUS profited by experience to identify the problem pretty quickly, and promptly reverted to its tried and tested formula.

Its other retail activities — Kohl's Department Stores, recently identified as a "high performance prospect" and a new specialty clothing chain called Thimble — reflect a new-found obsession with the customer's needs, and the implementation of a string of corporate objectives of which the first and foremost is a determination to achieve "clarity of concept". The results last year was a 9 per cent increase in sales for the division as a whole, and a 26 per cent increase in profits.

If the redefined retail activities are, evidently set for success, and the paper division shows signs of similar performance, it is one of the businesses that BATUS still derives "67 per cent" of its profits from tobacco, and is likely to derive still more thanks to the success of Barclay's.

However, while BATUS can use its cash flow for the time being to instal new plant, apart from anything else, since Barclay's success has left it short of capacity despite the commissioning of a new factory, management is already looking forward to the time when it will be necessary to make acquisitions because the money cannot be used to generate sufficient profit internally.

Helen Barker

More banks join small business loan scheme

After their initial misgivings, banks now seem to be queuing up to join the government's small businesses loan guarantee scheme.

Last week the Department of Industry announced that a further seven banks were joining the London and Scottish clearing banks along with Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation in the scheme from August 3. These are the Co-operative Bank, Yorkshire Bank, Allied Irish Banks, the Bank of Ireland, Northern Bank, and Hill Samuel — the merchant bank, closely involved in lending to small businesses.

Mr John MacGregor, the minister

responsible for small firms, proudly declared that there were other lending institutions waiting in the wings while their applications were being processed. Both the Co-op Bank and Hill Samuel were pushing their terms as being the cheapest in town.

The table gives some idea of the relative costs of taking out a government guaranteed loan for £50,000 and it seems clear that the other lenders come into the market rates could be shaved further.

While no one believes that the scheme is perfect, it has got off to a flying start indicating the pent-up demand for such funds from small businesses. Mr MacGregor said that in the seven weeks since the

scheme was launched some 180 guarantees have been given covering loans of £6m, and demand is described as "buoyant".

The loan guarantee scheme, introduced as a three-year experiment, is designed to fill the gap for funds for small businesses which do not satisfy the banks' normal lending criteria. Loans are available at up to £75,000 for between two and seven years. Interest rates charged are roughly the same as for marginal projects and includes a 3 per cent fee to the Government for administering the scheme. The Government guarantee covers 80 per cent of the loan with the bank providing all the money and guaranteeing the remaining 20 per cent.

WHAT IT COSTS TO BORROW £50,000 UNDER THE GUARANTEE SCHEME

	Co-operative Bank	Lloyds	Natwest	Williams & Glyn's	Barclays/Midland	ICFC
(Figures represent £s)						
Initial cost when facility accepted:						
Arrangement fee	75	500	100	500	500	750
Quarter's premium in advance	300	300	300	300	300	300
	375	800	400	800	800	1,050
Quarterly cost before capital repayment:						
Bank interest	1,688 (13½%)	1,750 (14%)	1,781 (14½%)	1,812 (14½%)	1,812 (14½%)	2,125 (17%)
Guarantee premium (2.4%)	300	300	300	300	300	300
	1,988	2,050	2,081	2,112	2,112	2,425
Reduction in quarterly cost for each quarter capital repayment:						
Quarterly repayment of capital	99	103	104	105	105	121
	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Total cost over 7 years (excluding capital repayment)	36,844	38,425	38,603	39,581	39,581	45,612

Figures provided by the Union of Independent Companies.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

US banks grapple with interest rates

America's money centre banks have just reported what at first sight look like dismal second-quarter profit results. Chemical Bank looks like the exception with a 15 per cent gain to \$53.5m (about £28.7m), but this is due to the sale of its head-office building and without this benefit this bank would have announced a decline of \$2m in its earnings.

Not only did most bankers miscalculate the trend of interest rates but their error looks especially grave as they got things right exactly one year ago and produced record results. Most profit figures would look poor compared with those registered in the second quarter of 1980, when United States interest rates slumped and the cost to the banks of their funds moved down much faster than the level of rates the banks charged their customers. Then, too, the dramatic interest rate developments of last year's second quarter also produced bumper bond trading profits for the banks.

Citicorp went further out on a limb than other banks last year in betting on interest rates falling and as a result its 1980 results were particularly good. This year Citicorp took a similar line, it was wrong and its results look particularly bad. Citicorp's profit before securities transactions in the 1981 second quarter, compared with second quarter 1980, were down 40 per cent at \$106m. Net interest income was off fully \$126m at \$582m and Citicorp recorded a \$2m bond trading loss, after a profit of \$78m in the comparative year ago period.

Citicorp is also still having trouble with its credit card business and this has added to its depressed results. A substantial improvement in the overall shape of Citicorp looks likely and its loan losses, like those of most US banks, remain very small, despite the mounting US recession and the heavy foreign exposure of the big banks.

Most banks are now reporting modest falls in second-quarter earnings relative to a year ago, with Chase down 2.3 per cent, Mellon down even less, Crocker off by 9 per cent and Wells Fargo down by 10 per cent. Net interest income everywhere declined and one explanation is that many of the banks are now providing substantial volumes of loans below prime rate and the differential between the prime and the rate for federal funds is narrower than has traditionally been the case. With interest rates remaining volatile and the economy weak it is difficult to see a significant increase in net interest income for most banks.

There are some exceptions and it does appear that the large money centre banks in the United States are being hardest hit. Analysts talk favourably at the moment about Texas banks in particular.

UK banking

Room for more disclosure

The banking industry at home is rarely out of the critical public spotlight and the level of disclosure by banks has been a familiar target in recent years. IBCA Banking Analysis in its statistical survey of British banks has some further harsh words to say on the subject.

The big four British clearing banks, whose interim reporting season is getting under way and which have been lambasted for making excessive profits, emerge relatively unscathed on this count for once. They have been disclosing bad debt provisions for a number of years and IBCA reckons the level of disclosure has improved. Not so the Scottish banks which have room to improve while the contenders for the wooden spoon are Williams & Glyn's and—although not a clearing bank—Standard Chartered. Standard, whose report includes "thumbnail economic/banking sketches of various geographic areas, which would be suitable reading for a bright 12-year-old", wins the prize.

These two sinners do, however, emerge rather better in terms of profitability. As measured by the pretax return on assets, which IBCA believes the best performance indicator, Williams & Glyn's has nudged Clydesdale Bank from first place with a 2.04 per cent return in 1980 and Standard Chartered followed in second place with a return of 1.84 per cent.

Of the four big British clearing banks Barclays, the largest with an asset base of

£37,097m, ranks fourth on this measure of profitability, followed by Lloyds in fifth place while NatWest is eighth and Midland ninth.

Disclosure among the accepting houses is of course a more controversial area because of the practice of keeping hidden reserves, although the draft EEC directive on credit institutions is proposing major changes. IBCA points out that Robert Fleming, the only one not to keep hidden reserves, has since joining the committee also started doing so although Lazard's provides an oddity because the movements in its hidden reserves can be traced through the accounts of its parent S Pearson.

Because of these arcane accounting practices which involve manipulating reported earnings and capital positions to varying degrees, comparisons are difficult. However, Kleinwort, Benson emerges as much the largest accepting house with assets of £2,713m and net income of £19m although Robert Fleming is much the most profitable. IBCA also observes that the accepting houses seem to be moving closer to the clearing and other major British banks in terms of absolute size. Kleinwort's equity and net profits are now larger than Grindlays, while its pretax earnings, which are not disclosed, must be approaching the major Scottish banks.

Gold futures

Lagging behind

For a country that almost invented the commodity markets London has been slow in developing new commodity futures markets. American investors and companies have for many years been accustomed to gold, financial and petroleum futures. Indeed, the American markets are now moving beyond these to such innovations as stock market indices, CD futures, and various kinds of options. This year, therefore, has been important to the City since it has seen the successful start of the International Petroleum Exchange and apparently smooth progress towards the London International Financial Futures Market.

But by the same token the postponement amid considerable confusion of the gold futures market is to be regretted. Gold futures, while not the biggest market, in many ways embody the spirit of futures markets. They are in popular imagination the quintessential futures market. They also, more mundanely, attract very large amounts of business.

London's claim to be the world's financial capital is diminished by the absence of a gold futures market. London then, can claim no credit for what has been happening to this market recently: after announcing September 7 as the day on which the gold futures market would open, the board of the exchange decided to delay the opening without fixing another date. It is even less creditable that the public reason for the postponement should have been the unsurprising discovery that the London Metal Exchange's broken trading hours were not suitable to the continuous trading which an American-style futures market requires. The board has since said it will not be trading on the LME.

If this raised eyebrows in the City, it only added to the puzzlement already created. The decision to denominate the contract in sterling rather than dollars did not win admiration. But that was a technical decision compared with the organizational point that barely three months before the market was originally due to open applications for membership had not been invited. If it is intended that membership be confined to members of the LME and the bullion market, the success of the market is open to doubt.

The position now is that six years after Chicago started a gold futures market the London market has no trading floor, no contract, no membership, and no opening date. This unsatisfactory state of affairs persists despite 18 months discussion by members of the LME and the bullion market. These are not bodies renowned for their innovative spirit, but their failure to start a gold futures market, contrasted as it must be with the progress made by the IPE and LIFFE, is stark. London needs to recapture the initiative in commodities trading.

Adrienne Gleeson on the latest developments at the Trustee Savings Banks

TSBs join the big lending league

It is naturally a source of embarrassment to an organization which was dubbed the "third force in British banking" almost a decade ago, to have to admit that it is only now making its first full-scale commercial loan.

But it was not simply embarrassment that induced the TSB to make the announcement so quietly a couple of weeks ago. It was also the fact that they have problems when it comes to letting the world know how far they have come in the past four years, and how much further they intend to go.

The announcement that they will undertake commercial loans marks the latest, and possibly the most revolutionary, of the steps in the TSBs' development from their origins as a self-interest of the late eighteenth century, into financial conglomerates offering all the services of the normal joint stock bank and a few more besides.

The TSBs embarked upon this path in 1977, some four years after it had been mapped out for them by the Page Committee on National Savings. The steps

taken so far—the introduction of personal cheque accounts, of personal loans, of mortgages, and of small-scale lending to sole traders, partnerships and the sort of local limited company whose owners are likely to bank with the TSB in their personal capacity—have been momentous in their implications but pretty minor in their impact on the structure of the banks' assets and liabilities. The latest step is revolutionary because it is likely to transform their balance sheets.

By the standards of the commercial joint stock banks, the TSBs' balance sheets are at the moment distinctly odd. The oddity does not lie on the debit side, though with three separate kinds of personal account—cheque, savings and investment—and no share capital, the liabilities will show clear signs of the TSBs' origins. The nature of their assets, however, is very strange indeed.

Most banks lend the money which they receive from their depositors to other customers. But the TSBs still lend by far the bulk of their loans to the Government. Most of this is in the form of government stock purchased through the Stock Exchange, but a substantial slug—£1,236.5m out of total group assets of £5,524.1m at the last balance sheet date—is still lent directly through the National Debt Office. At the end

of November 1980, total advances to customers, at £322m, amounted to little more than 5 per cent of total assets.

Such a disposition of their assets may have been all very well in the days when the TSBs could with government backing, assure their depositors of returns as good as anything which the competition could offer and tax advantages as well. But those days have gone. The returns are now dependent on what the TSBs can earn, and the tax advantages were scrapped in November 1979.

At the moment neither the 4 per cent offered on ordinary accounts (those in which the money is available on demand), nor the 9 per cent odd (which varies from area to area) on investment accounts (those on which the money is available at five days' notice) compares well with the rates being offered by the building societies or the National Savings Bank, and while the investment accounts are still popular, the volume of money deposited in the savings accounts has been dropping steadily over the past four years.

It is largely with a view to improving the return on assets, and thus the returns that can be offered to depositors, that the TSBs have been pursuing the perilous course of lending to the public.

Their embarkation has, however, been attended by two major handicaps, either of which, in itself, would probably be enough to send the competition into a profound political sulk. The first stems from the peculiar nature of the TSBs, and hinges on the question of what exactly they are, and who exactly owns them—questions which neither the TSBs themselves nor anyone else have yet been able to answer.

What is certain is that they are not a group, and since they are not a group they cannot claim group tax relief. This means, for instance, that if one part of the organization makes losses they cannot be set off against profits elsewhere for tax purposes (except insofar as both losses and profits arise within the service company subsidiaries of TSB Holdings, which itself is jointly owned by the regional TSBs and the central board). More important still, it means that the TSBs in general cannot take advantage of the tax shelter provided, in particular by the legislation on leasing, which is an important source of business for the joint stock banks. The TSBs are hoping for legislation to clarify the legal status, probably by establishing a holding company, by 1984; but in the meantime there is no way they can bump up their leasing business in competition with the banks without making a loss on it.

How the TSBs' aggregate balance sheets are likely to look by November 1981

Assets	£m	Liabilities	£m
Cash and liquidity	620	Cheque accounts	703
National Debt Office	1,030	Savings accounts	1,364
Export Credits Guarantees	410	Investment accounts	3,187
Department refinancing	670	Term deposits	1,016
Retail lending	50	Customers' balances	6,270
Wholesale commercial lending	50	Creditors, corp tax etc	100
Investments (govt stock etc)	3,700		
Total lending	6,480	Total liabilities	6,370
Debtors, infrastructure	400	Reserves	510
Total assets	6,880		6,880

Striking it rich in 'Overthrust Belt'

Casper, Wyoming

Close to the centre of this city the commercial centre of Wyoming there is a simple monument dedicated to the thousands of American pioneers who trekked westwards through the Rockies to the Pacific coast.

That westward journey was made along a series of trails from the east, including the Oregon Trail which passed close to where the memorial now stands. It was a long and hard journey undertaken by the fact that Casper itself is named after a cavalry lieutenant who died protecting pioneer's wagon trains from the attentions of 3,000 Sioux and Cheyenne Indians.

Today, more than 100 years on, the pioneering spirit is alive and well in Casper. But today's pioneers are the geologists, tool pushers and roughnecks of the oil industry.

Like their predecessors, they too are heading west, to the Rockies. But today the search is for oil and gas. In much the same way as the cavalry rode over the Rockies to rescue the men and women of nineteenth century wagon trains, the oil men are riding west to rescue the United States from the

country's dependence on the whims and fancies of Opec oil ministers.

Their target is the "Overthrust Belt", the geological feature which runs the length of the Rockies from Anchorage to Acapulco. The belt was created millions of years ago by natural forces which pushed, or thrust the westernmost rock strata of the Rockies over those which lay to the east.

By one of those happy strokes of geological coincidence, the overthrusting occurred in exactly the right place to create pools of oil and gas.

Oil and gas discoveries in the Overthrust Belt are not new—a significant discovery was made in the Turner Valley near Calgary in 1926—but the pace of exploration has quickened appreciably over the past six years. It is a programme stimulated by new discoveries and the pressing need for oil and gas reserves to reduce dependence on imports.

Such has been the pace of development that in the popular imagination it has been seen as a veritable underground river of oil and gas stretching from Alaska to Mexico. It is an

analogy which the oil industry regards as fanciful.

W. Vanderbeek, vice-president and regional manager of Amoco Production Company is among those who want to play the image down. Nevertheless, his own company, together with Chevron USA, has seen fit to pin the "giant" label on a couple of gas fields and an oil field which they have discovered in the Wyoming Overthrust.

In oil industry terms that label implies reserves of 100 million bbl of oil or 1 trillion cubic feet of gas, inside reckon that the reserves of the three fields are greatly in excess of those estimated.

The discoveries, and others which have been made over the past few years, have completely changed the oilmen's attitude towards prospects in the Overthrust Belt. In the period up to the first significant discovery in late 1974, oilmen regarded the south-west Wyoming and north-east Utah region as a graveyard. The legend over the graveyard read: "500 dry holes".

But since that initial discovery, the rigs and drilling crews have poured in. New discoveries have been made and production has been lifted to

3,000 barrels of oil and 100 million cubic feet of gas a day. Yet some people in the oil industry believe the Overthrust's true potential has been scarcely scratched.

Production capacity is being constrained by the lack, so far, of large plants to process the gas from the fields, and delays in federal authorization for a large new gas pipeline into the region.

So how large are the reserves on the Overthrust? Amoco estimates that discovered reserves in the south-west Wyoming and north-east Utah area amount to an energy equivalent of about 2.5 billion barrels of oil—equivalent to about one-third of the reserves established at Prudhoe Bay, Alaska.

The search for new reserves continues with no sign of any abatement. Richard "Rip" Robitaille, the Texas-born oilman who runs the Petroleum Association in Wyoming, keeps a careful check on the progress which the industry is making in the belt.

Throughout last year the average number of drilling rigs operating throughout the state (exploration and production is not confined to the Overthrust) amounted to 150 per month. At the end of last month

there were 198 rigs operating in the Wyoming Overthrust, by far the largest number on the Rocky Mountain region, compared with 153 a year earlier.

The interest and pace of development says Robitaille, stems from a combination of two factors.

"The first was the federal government decision to deregulate the oil business, which has opened the oil companies to sell the product at prices which provide a return; and second, the technology which has become available to the oil companies over the past few years," he says.

What this all adds up to is that Wyoming is consolidating its position as one of America's biggest sources of primary energy. It already boasts some of the largest coal reserves in the world and a plenitude of uranium.

"Without question the area represents the most significant onshore activity in the United States," says Mr Robitaille. "We have defined the extent of the Overthrust but we have not yet defined its production potential. What we do know is that it has a great deal of potential."

Peter Hill

Realizing a vision of socialist sixties

Industry in the regions

Milton Keynes

From six other centres, the development corporation provided 300 employees to the city and created 400 more jobs. Milton as "the optimum centre" for its needs, and also because it was, after initial misgivings acceptable to existing employees.

Burroughs Machines employs about 35 people—expected to double within the next year—at four units in the city, to which it moved last August and where it plans to construct a 400-place staff and customer residential training college.

Like VW, the company was attracted for reasons of convenience. Milton is not only within 14 hours' driving distance of London Airport, but it is served directly by the main London-Birmingham electrified rail link.

A new £7.8m station/office complex being built jointly by British Rail and the development corporation will serve the city direct when it opens next May, but it will not replace the nearby stations at Bletchley and Wolverton, where BR is a big local employer at its carriage works. Intercity as well as outer suburban services will make additional stops at the new station.

The 145-unit regional shopping centre is the largest covered mall of its kind in Britain. Dickins & Jones plan to open a big department store there in September.

One of the founding aims of Milton Keynes was to avoid "new town blues" experienced on similar projects elsewhere, by synchronizing the infrastructure development with that of housing growth.

The shopping centre, the community and cultural activities and an environment landscaped for people (including 50 miles of cycle paths) are concrete symbols of that aim, while the relative freedom from social or industrial problems testifies to its success.

A further factor is the planned provision of reasonably-priced new housing offered for sale at prices which start at £17,000, and the availability of 10 per cent mortgages from the development corporation.

Around 300 rented properties have been sold to sitting tenants, 140 of these in the last financial year, and the area is being encouraged by the development corporation. Rates are at present 13.13 per cent higher on commercial premises than last year, and 15.47 per cent more on domestic premises.

Industrial units ranging in size from 500 to over 25,000 sq ft are available at rents of £2.08 and £2.10 per sq ft.

What may dent the image of Milton Keynes is the fact of offering newcomers a definite living-cost advantage. But it has clearly outlived its growing pains and emerged to approximate closely with the planners' aim of a 25 year ago of a necessary, viable and above all pleasant place in which to live and work.

Nicholas Cole

Business Diary profile: Michael Beesley and British Telecom

A new verb, to Beesley, could enter business jargon this week, meaning to break a state monopoly, such as that exercised over British Telecom, obliging the former monopolist to take on all comers.

Generations of nationalized industry employees may inherit the word as synonym for vexatiousness. "Bit of a beesley" will say the management team, tossing back the latest pay claim. "Be beesleyed if we will," the union negotiators will say, rejecting management's counter-offer.

The verb is already in use, accompanied by a chuckle, by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. A statistic on the study is expected in the Commons this week. Since the professor has now supplied the economics for Sir Keith's latest edicts, it seems unlikely the minister will do a Beesley and fust the study's findings.

Beesley thinks that competition is important in ensuring business efficiency. Further, more, he thinks unwise, solely to rely upon the market judgment of a monopoly body, especially when one can set out for independent data—particularly if furnished by Professor Beesley.

Beesley has had little opportunity personally to practice the economics he preaches, although he is a director of British Rail's Transmark consultancy.

Now 57, he first read and then taught commerce at the University of Birmingham, where a colleague was Alan Walters. Mrs Thatcher's pet domestic economist. "Of course, I was a Liberal at university," says Beesley. "I was one time with the two main parties."

He canvassed for the party in those days. Although he is now called upon by a right-wing

Tory government, it is only fair to point out that he was chief economic adviser to the Ministry of Transport in the late sixties, when a right-wing Labour government was in.

Whatever his economics, Beesley describes himself as politically independent. Like Walters, Beesley headed for the United States. "You hadn't come of age in the academic world," he says, "until you had received an invitation to go to America," he adds, referring to the year 1959-60 he spent as visiting Associate Professor of Industry at the University of Pennsylvania.

He did not regard this stay as the greatest intellectual experience of his life, but nonetheless he has been to-ing and fro-ing across the Atlantic ever since. He has advised United States government agencies on urban transport problems through the Urban Institute in Washington. He has been a visiting professor at both the economics department and the business school at Harvard.

He says his pet hate is pig-headedness. He seems to enjoy being with, and even says that there are times when monopoly is justified—which will surprise those critics who thought his British Telecom brief was to destroy rather than to ginger up that body.

Beesley's critics, nonetheless, are many. Given the passions aroused by "liberalization", it has been Beesley's misfortune that he has had little opportunity to answer them. Sir Keith commissioned his study last August. It was delivered in

January but not published until April. A meeting at which Beesley could have confronted his views was postponed by government dithering. By the time minds had been made up, Beesley was away—in Australia this time—and the meeting was held in his absence.

A radio interview was attempted over the telephone from the UK to Beesley in Australia. That chance to speak up was denied, the professor because the line was too bad for the interview to be broadcast.

That was ironic, but also a pity because he is far from domestic. His viewpoint, however unwelcome to the listener is likely to be sweetened with a joke and critics can come away liking the man if not the message.

Some critics question the value of the liberalization study because Beesley lacks experience of the industry. "And what would they say if I had been a dyed-in-the-wool telecommunications man?" he retorts.

Although much in demand as an academic in this country, in the United States and elsewhere, he remains unfulfilled in one way. "I always wanted to run a small business. To do something and make some money."

By the end of the week, however, it may be that Michael Beesley has done something to make British Telecom a smaller business than it was, and in so doing helped some yet smaller businesses make some money.

Bill Johnstone
*RMSO (£3.60).

People with a position to maintain in the world keep informed with The Times Special Reports



Bushy tries Dial-a-Beesley: Professor Michael Beesley, challenger of the telecommunications monopoly.

McLeod Russel gets 20 pc stake in DIG

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On the secondary market, price developments were, at best, murky. After sustaining losses on Monday and Tuesday, Eurodollar prices began to pick up mid-week although there is still no real conviction that the market will go steaming ahead.	
(and premiums)	
Rate for 1982	78 1/2
Rate for 1983	78 1/2
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Rate for 2104	78 1/2
Rate for 2105	78 1/2
Rate for 2106	78 1/2

Commodities

On the whole this year's harvest will be enough in the high productivity regions to offset problems elsewhere. The IWC anticipates an 8m. tonnes increase in world wheat trade to 100m tonnes during 1981/82. The size of the global harvest, coupled with the availability of transport and the relatively small shortfalls in deficit countries, should keep prices reasonably stable. Nevertheless, it is salutary to be reminded of how fragile is the world's food economy.

Euromarkets

Euromarkets

as an open price deal with an indicated coupon of 16 per cent. The price will be fixed in light of market conditions at the time of subscriptions.

By agreeing to an open price system, the borrower is willing to be flexible. Market situations are such that flexibility is necessary, especially for the retail people," said one banker. Under current market conditions, the market was quoted in the grey market at issue price less 1½ bid to less 1 offer.

Although there was no signal that short-term dollar rates

were ready to rake in hope-
downturn, some dealers
drew encouragement from the
second-quarter fall in real gross
national product in the United
States as well as the slowdown
of inflation.

On the secondary market,
price developments were, at
best, murky. After sustaining
losses on Monday and Tuesday,
Eurodollar prices began to pick
up mid-week although there is
still no real conviction that the
market will go steaming ahead.

nd premiums)			
Battler 31, 1992	78	4.03	
Easman Kodak 41, 1988	56	11.05	
Ford 3, 1988	59	41.15	
Investment-Consult 8 1994	117	-9.67	
INA 6, 1987	127	-0.46	
Petroleum 8 1986	104	1.10	
J. P. Morgan 3, 1987	106	-0.83	
Revol 31, 1987	97	-5.50	
Saary Rand 4, 1988	88	11.30	
Warner Lambert 41, 1987	67	60.80	
Korck 3, 1988	65	91.90	
DEUTSCHENMARK ISSUES			
ESCC 31, 1994	Price	YIM	

FLOATING RATE NOTES		Current
	Price	Yld
GNP 1985	100 1/2	18.54
Bank of Tokyo 1984	101 1/2	19.35
World Bank 1985	99 1/2	17.95
World Bank 7 1/2 1988	99 1/2	17.95
GNP Mining 1986	99 1/2	17.95
Midland 1987	100	18.25
Credit National 1988	99 1/2	18.21
GNP 1989	99 1/2	17.95
World Bank 1990	99 1/2	17.95
GNP 1991	99 1/2	17.95
Midland 1992	99 1/2	17.95
Chase Manhattan 1993	99 1/2	17.95

barrel some companies are getting the oil cheaper at "under cover prices". The broker said: "They want to keep on buying the stuff while it's going cheap". Otherwise the tanker market is pretty sluggish with rates in the Mediterranean and

new advance registration contract a vessel is assigned a number 18 days before her expected arrival on berth.

EPIC 6-1-2000	148	138
Grand Bank 7-1-2000	85	85
Sammy Tax 1-1-2000	68	60
te & Lila 1-1-2000	133	133
Simple Bar 6-1-2000	90	92
EX dividend	98	98

[illegible]

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days
(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

• Ex dividend. • Ex sl. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. d Interim payment passed f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. i Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. • Ex capital distribution • Ex rights. • Ex scrip or share split i Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. ... No significant data.

1

Benn says contest pulls party together

By Our Political Staff

Mr Wedgwood Benn, in full campaigning cry for the deputy leadership, claimed yesterday that the contest will bring the Labour Party much closer together.

The real gain, he said, in the BBC's *The World This Week* end, is that for the first time in many years politics had been discussed as a normal trade union conference. And that had also happened in every constituency party where they had been deciding how they would vote in the electoral college.

Mr Benn, who said his illness has left him with "wonky legs" but no other effect, sidestepped Mr Michael Foot's challenge to him to contest the leadership. He said he supported Mr Foot.

Mr Benn repeated the suggestion that he has accused his Shadow Cabinet colleagues of "duplicité". "I was saying what the deputy leader (Mr Denis Healey) said the other day at the Executive—that he was opposed to the policy of the party on defence, the suggestion that he has accused his Shadow Cabinet colleagues of 'duplicité'."

"It's a well known fact that a number of members of the Shadow Cabinet disagree strongly with the policy of the Labour Party."

Now the difference between normal trade and this year is that in the old days conference would reach a policy, and then the Shadow Cabinet felt free to do what it liked. Now there is an election for the deputy leadership, and the conference this year will have the opportunity for the first time of discussing the policy, and settling it, and settling the question of the leadership.

Labour's choice for Croyd

Mr Stanley Boden, aged 45, a secondary school history teacher, has been selected as the Labour Party candidate to fight the Croyd, North-West, by-election (Frances Gibb writes).

Mr Boden, who was selected on first ballot, describes himself as occupying a "centrist" position in the party. He has contested the seat for the last four general elections in which he came second each time.

He does not see the Social Democratic/Liberal alliance as posing a great threat, but says: "We have got to show people in this constituency that we have got a solid Labour vote and we have got to show that the Social Democratic/Liberal alliance is an alternative to the Tories, and not to Labour."

Mr John Winterkill, aged 40, a chartered surveyor, has been chosen as the Conservative candidate to fight the by-election.

Pitt profile, page 3

Police rout 1,000 scooter youths on Keswick rampage

From Our Correspondent, Keswick

Police put on show an array of weapons yesterday, including coshes, whips and motor cycle chains seized after a night of violence in which a thousand young "mods" terrorized a Lake District town.

Trouble flared after scooter-riders from all over Britain invaded the picture postcard town of Keswick on Saturday night, in a pitched battle in a car park, police armed with riot shields and helmets, were pelted with stones and bottles.

One officer was treated in hospital for leg injuries and 14 people were arrested. They will appear before a special court this morning.

Traders and shopkeepers yesterday were clearing away the debris and counting the cost of the damage. Shop and restaurant windows were smashed, a caravan and a mobile theatre were badly damaged. A barricade in the car park was set on fire.

A police charge dispersed the youths and as they retreated from the town square, the firebrand Jack Taylor praised

his men for the way they had handled the situation.

"They withstood extreme provocation by large numbers of these scooterists. There of these exactly as I would have expected."

"Our officers stood their ground and managed to contain these youths in the car park so that the town centre, the main shops, and so forth, were not damaged."

Councillor Claud Metcalf, the mayor of Keswick, said the attack by the scooterists on the Lakeside car park and the fragile Keswick Theatre was "a disgraceful act of vandalism."

"Everything in the car park that could be broken was broken, including the kiosk, and there was glass everywhere. A caravan next to the Century Theatre was burnt out. The theatre was left in the front of the theatre and its two bars were wrecked."

But the theatre seats, stage and scenery were undamaged and the show will go on tonight with a performance of *She Stoops to Conquer*.

Bombs shatter Durban car showrooms

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg, July 26

Two bombs badly damaged car showrooms in Durban early today. Although police said TNT and plastic explosives used in the bombings were of "Eastern origin", they declined to say whether the blasts were the work of African nationalists.

The explosions came less than a week after two power stations in the eastern Transvaal were damaged by mines believed to have been planted by the African National Congress (ANC), an outlawed nationalist organization.

Today's blasts occurred in showrooms of the McCarty group, South Africa's biggest car distributors, badly damaging a score of cars. Two Indian men were slightly injured by the second blast and taken to hospital this year.

Police said later the explosives used were similar to those used to blow up railway lines in the Durban area on three occasions this year.

The most serious attack so far was in April, when an electricity sub-station near Durban was blown up, blinding out workers of factories and homes. This has been attributed to the ANC.

Prime Minister had report on Toxteth tension

Continued from page 1

approached Mr Robin Tibbs, director of the CPRS, to see if he wished to discuss the findings of the report. He declined the invitation last week.

On the basis of the inter-departmental review, Mr Heseltine in February this year confirmed the inner city partnership grants were to continue. The think tank, however, cast a sceptical eye on the overlap of the various government programmes targeted on Merseyside, where in March the new urban development corporation was born, and where three of the local councils have been instructed to compile registers of under-used publicly owned land.

The CPRS report said there were no easy answers; that Liverpoolians might have to adapt to service sector employment and give up ambitions of attracting heavy manufacturing industry.

Despite the now standard references to the possibility of social tension in seriously deprived areas contained in the think tank document and comparable submissions from other quarters, the scale and ferocity of the Toxteth riot took Whitehall by surprise.

Police say fire at Bart's was arson

A fire which seriously damaged St Bartholomew's hospital, London, was started deliberately, police said last night.

Off-duty doctors and nurses rushed to the hospital early yesterday to help colleagues evacuate hundreds of patients as 200 firemen, with 30 fire engines, fought for two hours to bring the fire under control.

It was started in a linen cupboard in the basement of the main block, and thousands of pounds worth of sheets, blankets and supplies were destroyed. Seven people were overcome by smoke and two were slightly hurt.

Last week a fire started in a lift at the hospital, which is an emergency stand-by this week because it is the nearest medical centre to St Paul's Cathedral.

Firemen stopped yesterday's fire from spreading through the main block, but smoke seeped through underground passages and up into the wards.

Mr Raymond McCoy, the deputy administrator, said the basement had no fire-doors to stop the smoke and blamed lack of cash.

"If there had been fire-doors we would not have had to evacuate as many wards as we did. Unfortunately the money is not there to bring in the fire precautions that are possible."

He was as happy as he could be "under the circumstances" with the hospital's fire precautions.

Last night staff were still cleaning up the wards, but the hospital is expected to be back to normal today. Many of the 300 evacuated patients were found beds in other parts of the hospital, but 31 expectant mothers had to be transferred to Hackney Hospital in the East End.

Staff and patients were congratulated for the way they coped. Mr Anthony Moran, the administrator, said: "Thankfully the fire was contained to the basement, although smoke has affected much of the hospital."

"It could have been much worse, but everyone stayed very calm and did their jobs so there were no injuries to any patients. I cannot praise the people here highly enough, they really were magnificent."

One nurse said: "The alarms went off well before smoke reached the wards so none of the patients were affected. They realized what had happened and were very cooperative."

Several firemen were overcome by heat exhaustion. Two were among the victims of the riot. The other two patients and three hospital staff.



The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, in the robes he will wear at the royal wedding on Wednesday. Photograph by Lord Snowdon.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

The Duke of Kent visits plant breeding station of Miln Master group, Docking, Norfolk, 2.30.

Jongling: Harrow-on-the-Hill station, 9.30.

Talks, lectures

Paintings from Mughal India, by Barbara Brend, British Museum, 11.30; Uccello, Botticelli and Rembrandt, National Gallery, 1.30; Tippi's Tiger, by Anne Buddle, 11.30, Nineteenth century furniture design by Anne Ceresole, 2.30; Devonshire Hunting Tapes, by Rosemary Lambert, 3.30, all at Victoria and Albert Museum.

Exhibitions

Society's presents Cecil Beaton photographs during the Harrogate Festival, 8-12; Montpellier Parade, Harrogate, 10-5; Photographs by Bruce Lloyd, Camden Arts Centre, 10-5; Patrick Proctor, David Paul Gallery, St John's Street, Chichester, 9.30-5; China by Chinese photographers, S. Ching, Chichester Lane, 9-5; Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881), National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, 10; Photographs of construction of new Humber bridge, Science Museum, 10-6; Children's Books, 45 East Hill, Wandsworth, 10-6.

Music

Songs through the ages, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, St Lawrence Jewry, 6.15; Jonathan Bennett plays music for a royal wedding, St Michael's Cornhill, 1.15; Warren Youth Choral of the United States, sing sacred hymns, St Martin-in-the-Fields, 1.05; Organ music played by Sandra McCarthy, Southwark Cathedral, 1.10.

Roads

London and the South-east: In Essex from 9 am temporary traffic lights will be operating on the A13 at Rawthorpe and Swiss Avenue, which will be reduced in width to allow for resurfacing. Construction of a new roundabout at Basildon, Hampshire, may cause delays on the A33. Between Popple Way and Chichester railway bridge.

Midlands: Temporary traffic lights causing delays on the A42 Warwick road at Wellesbourne, Warwickshire. And in Nottinghamshire, there will be two-way traffic on the A53. Between Popple Way and Chichester railway bridge.

Wales and the West: Construction of the Avon Gorge gallery will mean one lane only open at Hotwell Road, Bristol. There will also be a single lane open at Kewstey, near Bristol. The A477 Carmarthen to Pembroke road.

The North: Several delays on the A568 Blackthorn road at Widdow, Cumbria. Road works in progress on the A247, Stanningley bypass, Leeds. Delays likely on the A58 Rochdale road at Ripponden.

Inquiries to Automobile Association, on 01-954 7373.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion of Confidence in Government's economic and social policies.

Lords (2.30): Belize Bill and Employment and Training Bill, remaining stages.

Premium bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Savings Bonds prizes, are: £100,000, 16VE 947432 (the winner comes from Norfolk); £50,000, 12XK 720685 (Midlothian); £25,000, 3EL 897384 (Essex).

Sporting fixtures

Cricket: Tour match (11.0 to 6.0 or 6.30): Worcestershire v Australia at Worcester. County championship (11.0 to 6.30): Derbyshire v Kent; at Derby; Nottinghamshire v Lancashire, at Nottingham. Other match (11.0 to 6.0): Ireland v Scotland, in Dublin.

Terms: British junior championships, at Eastbourne.

Racing: Meetings at Bath (2.0), Newcastle (2.15), Windsor (6.30) and Nottingham (6.30).

Golf: English amateur championship, at Burnham and Berrow.

Sport on TV: 11.30 pm, Great Fights of the Seventies, boxing.

The Pound

	Bank	Bank
	buys	sells
Australia \$	1.58	1.62
Austria S	33.50	31.40
Belgium Fr	81.25	77.25
Canada \$	2.32	2.23
Denmark Kr	14.79	14.82
Finland Mk	8.28	8.38
France Fr	11.12	10.62
Germany DM	4.70	4.45
Greece Dr	114.00	108.00
Hongk\$	11.00	10.40
Ireland Pt	1.28	1.22
Italy Lit	2,310.00	2,210.00
Japan Y	461.00	455.00
Netherlands Gld	185.00	182.00
Norway Kr	11.85	11.25
Portugal Esc	124.00	118.00
South Africa R	1.35	1.28
Spain Ptas	165.00	176.00
Sweden Kr	10.06	9.56
Switzerland Fr	4.07	3.85
USA \$	1.91	1.84
Yugoslavia Dnr	74.50	69.50

Notes for small denomination banknotes only as supplied today by the Bank of England. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency.

The papers

The decision by the International Whaling Commission to ban whaling is applauded by the Daily Mirror today. A leading article says tens of thousands of whales have died since the United Nations ban (724 1166).

Thursday: A Tale to Abner: Arts Theatre (836 3334/2132) opens on August 3; The Sound of Music (724 1166) opens on August 4; Macmillan, Lyric, Hamlet-Smith (741 2311) opens on August 4 (until August 13); Jolly Hell (836 6108) opens on August 6.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover: Wind NW light or moderate, occasionally fresh; English Channel (E): Wind W, light or moderate; SW: Wind W, light or moderate, occasionally fresh.

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Nature notes

Swifts have started the move southwards, especially the young ones, though many are still screaming in the skies at sunset. Meadow pipits and song thrushes begin to drift along the coasts. By day, little owls are conspicuous on game-pens and telephone wires, looking out over the bay and corn, bobbing up and down when alarmed. By night young tawny owls are noisy in the trees. Ducks are coming into full eclipse plumage, mallard drakes looking like darker brown females, male tufted ducks losing their sharp contrast of black and white. Woodpeckers still coo doggedly, turtle doves, purr in the dark green foliage.

Lane summer flowers continue to appear. Yellow toadflax, like small snapdragons, blazes on the hedgebanks, with the golden clusters of tansy and the spiky purple heads of teasel. The strong-smelling yarrow is widespread on the verges; red valerian adorns walls and railway-cuttings. The winged seeds of the sycamore are still green and translucent, and birch catkins still hard.

First nights

The Killing Game, Greenwich Theatre (858 7755) opens tonight; Quartermaster's Terms, Queens Theatre (724 1166) opens Thursday; A Tale to Abner: Arts Theatre (836 3334/2132) opens on August 3; The Sound of Music (724 1166) opens on August 4; Macmillan, Lyric, Hamlet-Smith (741 2311) opens on August 4 (until August 13); Jolly Hell (836 6108) opens on August 6.

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Weather

The general situation: A strong ridge of high pressure covers much of the British Isles, but a weak trough of low pressure will be close to N Scotland.

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight:

London SE, Central S, E England, East Anglia, Wales: Dry, dull and misty in places at first, sunnier periods developing; wind mainly W, light; max temp 22 to 24 (22 to 24).

Central Ireland, SW England, Wales: Dull at first, sunnier intervals developing; wind mainly W, light to moderate; max temp 17 to 21C (63 to 70F).

London SE, Central S, E England, East Anglia, Wales: Dry, dull and misty in places at first, sunnier periods developing; wind mainly W, light; max temp 22 to 24 (22 to 24).

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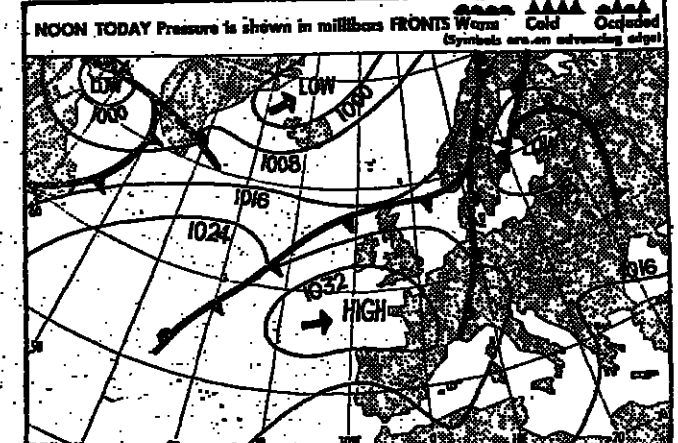
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Area	High	Low	Temp	Wind
London	1016	1008	18.5	11.5
Edinburgh	1012	1004	15.0	10.0
Belfast	1010	1002	14.0	9.0
Cardiff	1008	1000	13.0	8.0
Manchester	1006	998	12.0	7.0
Birmingham	1004	996	11.0	6.0
London	1016	1008	18.5	11.5
Edinburgh	1012	1004	15.0	10.0
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